

Wedding Crashers:  
What the bridesmaid  
saw in Mexico P.41

Our man at Mardi Gras:  
Joseph Boyden  
on parade P.34

Tennis-Skirt  
Moms and other  
PTA bullies P.40

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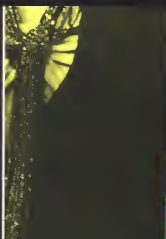
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#1 Show of 2005 #1 NEWS #1 Canadian Drama



#1 Show in Canada #1 New Show of This Year #1 Reality Series #1 Comedy #1 Returning Show

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Network in Canada







**'If one wishes to talk on the phone, finish office work, watch a video, listen to music, read a book, even take a nap while travelling in safety, take a bus!'**



**CAPTION:** Crows don't belong in people's homes—there it is: a reason they are called "wildebeest."

social meltdowns occurring in Hungary. Nationalist and xenophobic tendencies are serious problems here. Things are going change back again (the tiny villages of the Carpathians, previously referred to here as *hinterlands* have been buffeted by a profit-driven market economy and governed by self-censored politicians. The result has been a burgeoning bureaucracy, which produces no real wealth or good government, the establishment of a circle of wealthy business tycoons of various faiths, semi-integrated companies, and devices raising education, health and social services. Free life expectancy rates are falling. Regarding the upcoming election, the mood of ordinary citizens is one of anger and dismay. The alternatives are close to choosing between red and white wax, each laced with poison. The result will be the same.

Thomas A. Sax, Budapest

#### A spectacle of sport

The focus of the Olympics is being eroded away from the athletes in the wake of huge and splashy opening (and closing) ceremonies ("Rings of fire: how in Vancouver going to top Tai's opener?" Feb. 20). A word of advice: keep it simple! Make them uniquely Canadian, and keep the focus on the athletes. Mario Solomon, Vancouver, Ont.

Why do we try to be the best in the world in the sporting arena, but are content with "average" in other areas? For instance, Stephen Harper has said that winning Canada medals is reward foreign aid spending that will reduce the average living standard the OECD members. Why is this our goal? Wouldn't this be the

time, when it truly is a matter of life and death, for us to shoot for the gold medals?

Bethesda, Md., Victoria, B.C.

From Fedak's column "Let the season begin" (Feb. 27) was less than discouraging to our Olympic athletes. With horses like Clara Hughes trying it all out, what's to excuse? Bourard-Garneau and you were mean-spirited. Ian Clark, Ottawa

#### Caging crows

While "Two's company, three's a crow" (Horne, Feb. 27) mentioned the legality of keeping a crow as a pet, I was pleased that it completely neglected the ethical debate. If people really want to make a holy bird, they should volunteer with a wildlife rehabilitation who raises birds for the purpose of releasing them into their natural environment. These animals don't belong in people's homes—there it is: a reason they are called "wildebeest."

Cody Platt, Edmonton

#### Rejects reconsidered

In Scott Fedak's list of Top 10 rejected ideas for the new Maclean's ("Now for the Top 10 rejects," Nov. 24, 2005) No. 1 was "Buy me! I might have a half-million only inside!" Recently I opened up the magazine and found copies of *Fluxus* Far with pictures of half-naked Scarlett Johansson, Kate Winslet, Kate Wins and Puma Bialisti ("Sexy Far turns all," Media, Feb. 27). What happened to that idea being "rejected"? Now I'm just waiting for No. 2 on the list: "Puma B." Recently wearing a *Fluxus* Far baseball cap.

Arlette Smadbeck, Chertsey, Ont.

## MACLEAN'S

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## The strong, silent type

An insightful study of Harper's style based on one appearance



PAUL WELLS

When Parliament resumed at the beginning of April, Ottawa will be such a circus nobody will be able to keep up. But for the moment, the House of Commons is silent, ministers are locked in their offices behind stacks of briefing books, and if you must know, it's making reports to senior Quebecers that we were our best friend from now. The new guy Stephen Harper is not much for small talk.

He won't mention a secret however. But his one big news conference in last week drew a lot of attention because it offered a first-time insight into the Harper style. First, no more, about where he will go in the spring, and the rest of the country with him.

The Prime Minister does not like the press where all his recent predecessors since Trudeau met reporters. In the press theater, he has been down. In his preferred venue, the lobby of the House of Commons, he can stand—he's taller than you might think—and the House of Commons behind him offers a dignified background. You can actually hear the Prime Minister editing himself as he talks. His lines emerge from his mouth carrying a red stamp that reads CLEARED BY CENSORS. "Let me put you the following things," he said, and "I've been very confident," and "I can simply tell you..." and "Let me just say."

But what emerges is not entirely unadorned. When he improves on his first—he's perfect posture for emphasizing—the new PM works hard, not to say sucking, but to say some thing specific. Almost all his answers last week carried some meat in their bones. Here are some highlights.

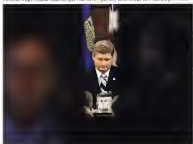
On Ralph Klein's plan for the chequered queue-jumping in the Alberta health care system: "I can say we plan to publish a complete response in the future but first I want to study the document with considerable attention." Which is not quite the same as a direct refusal to answer. "This government is committed to the Canada Health Act." In fact, so is Klein's. "My understanding is that the Alberta government is not committed to the Canada Health Act but... has endorsed the Canada Health Act in Alberta's own legislation." He came back in that last point, calling it "what's interesting here."

So straight-to-the-point as that guy Harper has been. To what end? "Luckily, the Quebec government has prepared major reforms, but reforms that respect the Canada Health Act." He encouraged "all provinces to follow the Quebec example." So Quebec's proposals, which permit private delivery of services but don't allow payment for Quebec service, start to look like the outlier against which other provinces will be judged.

On his financial planning: Don Drummond, a bank economist who used to work in the Prime Minister's office, said Harper will have

to follow the Quebec example. "So Quebec's proposals, which permit private delivery of services but don't allow payment for Quebec service, start to look like the outlier against which other provinces will be judged."

On his financial planning: Don Drummond, a bank economist who used to work in the Prime Minister's office, said Harper will have



STEPHAR works on being specific. Almost all his answers last week had some meat in their bones.

**His lines emerge from his mouth carrying a red stamp reading CLEARED BY CENSORS**

to achieve "peace" savings today cost of debt? Not No, Harper doesn't—no, his answer sounded differently like self-policing, or selfish thinking. "Outside of poverty areas we intend to build the Government of Canada on a general rise in spending that's no greater than inflation plus population growth," he said. "I don't see it as a major concern. It will simply be part of an ongoing exercise to ensure that Canadian tax dollars are used wisely."

Well. "Priority areas can get actually fully funded. And the more they do, the more it will be a matter of course to put enough limits on non-priority spending to keep the business healthy. Not that it can't be done, but that it won't be as easy."

Onward. The drums ring! "We're opposed to the long gun registry. It costs a lot with no concrete results." But "The criminal

justice system has ability to do it. I have no worries of backing a vote we are not sure of winning. So there are limits."

How did his first meeting with the press go? "I was glad I didn't have my microphone because there were a lot more potentially could possibly afford to pay or that the taxpayers of Canada could afford to pay." How about a royal commission on Canada's finances? "My own inclination would be probably not to have another commission but would be to proceed with some proposals, at least federal proposals—and see if we can put any kind of buy-in from the provinces."

Alignment? A warning to warning Liberals who might forget they were in power when the soldiers pulled and left Canada. "We do not send men and women into harm's way in a dangerous mission with the support of our party and other Canadians and then decide once they've seen them that you're not sure you should have sent them. That's not the way this government's going to behave. We are fully behind this mission."

Seniors elections? "Seniors rather than later I would expect than no later than the next. I don't believe we will have a national election process in place." With provincial help? "Not necessary." That's something we believe we can do from Ottawa.

One doesn't want to take a quarter-hour's chat chat as a presence of the next year or two. But since we are so thoroughly short on other evidence, what the heck. Harper's little speech—let me just say, I'll just say this—seems to look like a pretty far from a normal government style. The new guy moves forward warily, with a consciousness on comments that he absolutely wants to move. #

# Joe McCarthy, tragic hero

Now that, George Clooney, is what I'd call a brave film subject



BARBARA AMIEL

get a lot of clapping. Once and emphatically repeating the other in that very actors' applied when faced with a long award ceremony. They might have even stood up because George is more than an actor: he is an employer of actors. They clapping would have said we are happy for you George (a part speech), and (a whole truth) we are happy for ourselves. See, Hollywood men are a thought and dirty people.

George himself used the word "brave" in an interview he did with *Entertainment Weekly*. He was talking about what he calls the "political" film coming out of Hollywood, which for him is a pretty broad category including that gay western *Brokeback Mountain*, very specifically his own one *There Goes That Night*, and *Good Luck and Symptom*. Clooney was a new topic in which Hollywood films and people usually talk about the day was like the war in Iraq.

There's not much to say about *Brave*, the film he co-produced and stars in and for which he has an Oscar nomination as best supporting actor. This is Clooney's take on the war on terror, and it is a story of art, politics and American perfidy. The plot pivots around CIA's outbuilding America's role while Middle Eastern oil franchise, which could only be topped as the acceleration makes of Americans won't. Everyone in Syria is a spy and a target, possibly, the emerald-green who want to return his country and then must be accompanied by the CIA. Disputing of wealth and power is central to the film's theme and, and it makes for big disparities. It would be difficult to argue that any Middle Eastern country with oil reserves would develop its wealth more evenly if it didn't have oil. All you could say, looking at social structure, is that the ruling classes might not be quite as wealthy, but the poor would be far poorer.

Clooney's *Good Night, and Good Luck*, for which he got an Oscar nomination as co-writer of the script, is a recounting of the late television television commentator Edward R. Murrow and Senator Joseph McCarthy. This film is hugely impressive, which I didn't expect. It has cheap moments, particularly the conclusion showing President Dwight

Eisenhower delivering an "I love America" speech juxtaposed with the accusation of Murrow's program by CBS. Eisenhower was probably not as vigorous as he should have been in handling McCarthy, but he was no ally of the armistice either. Besides, film persons should not Eisenhower with delirium. He was not only the general who led the Allies to the unconditional surrender of Nazi Germany, he was the massive proponent of the greatest historical film of modern times. It was Eisenhower alone who insisted on the use of the Nazi death camps as a backdrop to capture the unimaginable in a conflict.

*Good Night, and Good Luck*, shut in an issue: black and white, driven by an and moving Clooney, a self-described Hollywood "old blood" (which actually means an alien).

**Their Oscar clapping would have said we are happy for you George (which is partly true)**



CLOONEY: A self-described Hollywood "old blood" (posing as a film contemporary L.A. one)

contemporary Los Angeles and, as a fine piece of work, but the single thing is not to "brave" The very suggestion that attacking Joseph McCarthy in 2005 requires courage is so unrealistic that any comment is superfluous.

"What would be brave in film terms today?" An anti-alcoholism film about the 1950s? In Hollywood, those of the five and the left, making a film attacking McCarthy or the war on terror means you're standing over the wall. You make it just half decent, never mind will. To be courageous, a film director would have to make a brilliant Hollywood film showing McCarthy as the ill-fated loser just possible. It happens. McCarthy's anti-

Communism cause was not without honour. The West might have spared a lot of people from "Island" in 11 years much earlier if you like. Khan Fakhri had no power to make sense of Stalin. McCarthy's basic point—the need to overthrow the contemporary equivalent of Fuchs and Tsvetkov Hall, Allan McNamara, the Rosenberg and David Gansburg during those power years when some in society had "difficulty" seeing Stalin as a conqueror rather than ally—was not completely unreasonable. Some might say that, instead of alcohol, instead of McCarthy up and took him taking into our space, could be the stuff of tragedy.

"Film reflects society if it doesn't lead action. I don't think it's the first responsibility," Clooney told *Entertainment Weekly*. "McCarthy, the Hollywood filmmaker, was not a great respondent either. More like 1968, it was not a responsible filmmaker to create the colour of the national ambience around them. Seventy-eight years' had been and forced conversions. Stalin professed wishes and the thinking stood. More recently, the 1980s exposed in psychosocial and social work on whose sensitive nature vibrated in the presence of the fiction person of "recovered



CLOONEY: A self-described Hollywood "old blood" (posing as a film contemporary L.A. one)

memory syndrome," leading to changes of political activity by some persons and leaders. Today's world-hungry target citizens whose entire existence are controlled by the plot of children. We all but give damn yellow ambience after irreparably jelling them. It's a race-up whether our current objectives are more access to more more more more or gauge themselves on alleged "corporate criminals." No better cinematic examination of the myth (not reality) used by these prosecutors, who have more power and destructive ability than the victims of Joe McCarthy's dreams. Unlikely, too, that Clooney will ever use this way. Not before the Oscars of 2005. It



## A GLIMMER OF HOPE IN NIGERIA, THREE CHEERS FOR THE SOARING LOONIE, AND THE GRITS GO COLD ON AFGHANISTAN

### GOOD NEWS

#### Dangers and daggers

The Supreme Court of Canada's decision last week striking down a Montreal-area school board's ban on kids on racial slurs during the welcome reception in a mostly isolated debate. The High Court ruled that a blanket ban on language was an unreasonable infringement on freedom of religion, but that school boards can impose restrictions to ensure safety, such as a ban on and requiring that the daggers remain closed and out of sight. It's the sort of compromise that has worked well in other countries in B.C., Ontario and Alberta, and has never so-called any schoolyard violence involving the largest. The last the school board made a crime in the same reasonable solution without bothering the court.

#### Hope in Africa

Helpful signs emerged last week from Nigeria's flagging aid in emergency against global oil crisis. The Nigerian oil for the Transportation of the Niger Delta actually released an oil spill message issued last month. The group is demanding, among other things, that Royal Dutch Shell comply with a Nigerian court ruling to pay \$2.1 billion to the victims in the compensation for pollution in the Niger Delta. The oil spill group called for a "neutral arbiter" to work out a peace to the conflict, which has already cut the country's oil production by 20 per cent, but would be a violent struggle for longer if Royal Dutch Shell won't.

In 1994, an oil spill of oil exploration we have not seen anything from the oil, we will keep from following a group leader and

#### Fight of the loonie

As the economic times you can't devalue your way to pro-

gress, and Canadians are finally realizing why. The recent Canadian dollar fell over the past few years has cost thousands of manufacturing jobs, but Peter Hall, deputy chief economist in Export Development Canada, this week pointed out the dollar's rise is good in the long run. A strong loonie makes it more affordable for firms to modernize with tech-



LAST WEEK: More than 100,000 Nigerians gathered last week

nology, and improve productivity. It also helps raise inflation and keep interest rates low. And all of that helps companies expand and hire more over time. Hall says: "Short-term pain, long-term gain." It's that simple.

#### Mortgages—aisle 4

Canadians treat Canada's First form of the mortgage and standardized needs, as why wouldn't they? The company with the financial services of Executives think they will. Recently, Canadian Tire Corp., which has been in the credit card business for almost a decade, announced it is seriously considering expanding its financial services offerings to include mortgages, investment savings accounts and GICs. No mention of whether the mortgage payments could be reduced in Canadian Tax money.

### BAD NEWS

#### Dazed and confused

The poor Liberal party is obviously dazed by its shift to the opposition benches. The party is struggling to figure out which of the policies included in its government it now wants to attack. None of these is more puzzling than the Liberal proposal that Canada's deployment of 2,200 troops in Afghanistan should be

and British for failing to adhere to the 2001 United Nations protocol that says signatories to provide assistance to victims and to consider offering permanent residence. According to the UN, human trafficking is a \$30-billion industry that has forced at least 12 million people, half of them children, into slave-like working conditions. Most of those smuggled into Canada end up on the sex industry. But instead of providing help, the report said, the Canadian government, with few exceptions, just departs victims.

#### Time for Plan C

The Canadian Medical Association Journal last week reported that two more top editors last week. Stephen Chen and Kelly Murray reportedly walked out when the CMA refused to commit to a policy of national independence. Last month, the CMA filed its motion to shut over an article about physicians questioning women on their sexual histories when they seek for Plan B, the "morning-after pill." The controversy has already dealt a pretty blow to the CMA's reputation, and it keeps getting worse. Lost in all this noise: the journal's initial report: are physicians blocking access to the drug, and are there any legitimate medical reasons to question a woman's request for it?

#### Going squirrelly

For eight years, the Canadian Taxpayers Federation has been and the worst in government waste with the Tories' awards, and this year's "winners" didn't disappoint. Our favourite: the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority spending \$90,000 for 213 nursery beds and 100,000 gowns, and the Ontario government's \$100,000 grant for the study of the small groups of squabs and other small animals.

#### Trafficking in misery

For all of our supposed compassion, an independent organization has ranked Canada among the worst in the world when it comes to helping victims of human trafficking. Last week, the Human Trafficking Foundation, a Canadian organization, criticized Canada







## 'There has to be a reason why you can get a hip replacement or an MRI in a week in France and yet you might wait up to two years in Canada'

DR. BRIAN DAY TALKS TO KENNETH WHYTE

Dr. Brian Day will assume the presidency of the *Canadian Medical Association* this year at a time of massive and unexpected change in his profession. He heads up emblematic of the new reality: The Vancouver orthopaedic surgeon is one of the country's leading practitioners of *hip* replacement. He is a founder and the largest (individual) shareholder of the *Canadian Surgery Centre*, which catered primarily to insured workers funded through private insurance programs.

A native of Halifax, Nova Scotia, where he watched the Beatles' launch here closer at the Centre, Day was the only student from the elementary school to attend university (the father, a physician, was better at death in the 1960s by headlining on being drugs). Educated in Manchester and British Columbia, Day has gained an international reputation as an orthopaedic surgeon. He worked at Yale and is president-elect of the *Arthroscopy Association of North America*.

Day is the first CMA president in nearly 50 years whose practice takes largely outside the public health care system. He asserts that he was not a single-issue candidate for the organization's top job, but he did present himself as an agent of change. He is a tireless critic of government management of health care. His personal website opens with a quote on the dangers of public health monopolies from Canada's most famous physician, Dr. William Osler: "I do not see in Canada (it would be a feasible one if any country organized) taking over both the *Profligate* and the *Greedy* of the entire community... since the most

reasonable circumstances... there would be that *absence of competition* and that *loss of independence*... I do not believe it would be good for the profession or good for the public."

The CMA is Canada's leading medical advocacy group, representing 60,000 physicians, medical residents, and students. Beyond Day does not take up his new role until August, he spoke to *Maclean's* office in chief Kenneth Whyte not as an official CMA capacity but as an individual practitioner.

**Q** Would I be wrong in assuming that the Canadian Medical Association is a bit of a mess, more the last 20 years, more the last 10 years, has been a defender of Canada's medical monopoly?

A single-tier health insurance system? I don't think that's accurate. For example, at the last annual meeting of the CMA, over 70 per cent of delegates endorsed a motion to support increased private-sector involvement in the delivery of health care.

No, but that was in the wake of last June's Supreme Court ruling on *wait lists*. A lot has changed since then. I was talking with you yesterday about the CMA's position towards the last couple of decades. Do you think that support for private alternatives within the public system has always been there?

I think it's always been there. And, in fact, it's now a consensus that in a CMA poll published about a week before the last federal election, 70 per cent of Canadians felt the

government should be looking to other jurisdictions—such as those in Europe, where there are systems that have a mix of private and public health care. The one group that seems to have been out of sync is government. I mean, the public and physicians seem to have a very similar perspective that support looks

**'We have failed as physicians to perhaps assert ourselves in the way we should have'**

ing at the private sector, and I think it's due to recognition that the system is not working as well as it is.

I don't want to belabor the point, but the public attitude here changed only recently. What I was asking is whether there has been a *double-edged sword* in the attitudes of physicians. I think so. Now, I would like to go on record as saying that I would like the private sector to go on to care the 10th of the Canadian medical system. It's just one small comment that I think will help increase the level of accountability of the public system. There are lots of other things wrong with the medical system as it's operating in Canada, and I don't want to be perceived as a single-issue person, because I'm not.

The Supreme Court of Canada, as we know, decided last June that patients who need treatment urgently and who are on waiting

lists should have possible alternatives to the public system.

Yes, the Supreme Court stated that Canada is not suffering and dying on its own terms and that governments across the country have shown inertia in dealing with the plight of patients. I think it is important to note that this was the same court that legalized abortion, that endorsed same-sex marriage, and that gave patients the right to vote. This is not a right-wing court. This is a liberal court that has said things aren't right. In fact, one of the phrases they used is, *reason is a wall*. It is not access to health care, and they struck down the arguments of the Quebec health law that outlawed private insurance for medically necessary services.

What has the impact of the decision been on the medical community?

A I think it's pushed people to consider that, finally, while governments have shown inertia, the court has rejected inertia and has ordered the government to do

it. It doesn't get us out of the red of wait lists, as if they can't get out of wait lists, they can't really force patients to wait and suffer while their health deteriorates. That's the essence of the whole debate. Now, if governments across the country can deliver the promises of the *Canada Health Act* and provide health care without wait lists in an expeditionary time and eliminate the suffering that the system inflicts on, then I would endorse that and so would every physician. Until the *renewal of the health care system* problem, members of us who are in the area of our government's health care weren't thinking along these lines. It was only in the last 10 and early '90s that, as resources were being devoted to patients, and doctors were not being allowed to treat patients, because there was no funding to go with the operating rooms and so on, that when private alternatives became an issue.

You are critical of a government-created problem?

It is governments that are directly responsible for the *downfall of the age of private health care* in this country. Governments are directly responsible through their neglect and inaction in dealing with issues in the past. Because governments are starting to act. A large part of the reason is that the courts have given legitimacy to private care, but also there are economic reasons. Providers are now spending close to 40 per cent of their *grossed-up budget* on health care, and it's really that revenue is moving because health care is an *important resource* from law enforcement, education in suffering because health care is *draining resources* from education, the environment, other impor-

tant social programs. Citizens are being denied important things because of the black hole of health care. For more than 40 years, we've promised to give everything to everybody in unlimited amounts for free. The first government response to these economic realities was to ration health services. Well, that's no longer acceptable to Canadians, it's no longer acceptable to doctors, and it's no longer acceptable to the courts.

You mentioned that this isn't really an ideological issue anymore, and I don't think it's a partisan issue any more. All the major federal parties seem ready to accept some measure of private care.

Even Jack Layton had his own *hermeneutic*. But that said, a couple of your predecessors at the CMA have been quite critical of past Liberal governments for *swapping* the *Canada Health Act* and *demoting* doctors who worked in both private and public care. Do you expect the change of government to go as far as making private care or harder?

I think that the change of government is not likely to make a big difference, but I do think we're at a *global moment* in the development of the Canadian health system. We have an opportunity here not on other countries but we're being forced to change by a combination of economics and legal requirements, but we can now design the best health system in the world. There's universal health systems in the United States—and one of the best of what they have to offer and learn from the mistakes they've made and accommodate our system so that we don't make the same mistakes. Canadians rise up the rankings from its 30th-ranked status in the world by the World Health Organization and other top-tier countries like Switzerland and Belgium and France and Germany.

Do you think Canada has a *miraculous* low level of health care?

I don't think they do, and that's the job of Maclean's to tell them that they're not so low.

And surely the CMA, too.

Well, you're right. The one thing that doctors understand—because we're the ones who are presumed to be our patients are suffering. Having close to two million Canadians on wait lists—either waiting to see a doctor or waiting for surgery or waiting for a test—is unacceptable in a system that on the one hand ranked 30th in the world, but, on the other hand, as we're per capita, [which is] one of the best in the world, is moving ahead. There's something wrong with that statistics, and governments need to take a hard look at the way they have handled and managed the system over the last 20 years.

You're not president of the CMA yet, but you are a member of the *Canadian medical community*. Is it not something of a disgrace that took the judiciary rather than the medical establishment to come out and say that the waiting lists in Canada had reached a point of *unsustainability*?

Well, I've been saying it for a long time, and I think a lot of my colleagues have been saying it for a long time. I've looked at CMA clippings going back 10 or 20 years, and I didn't see anywhere near as clear a statement as we got out of the Supreme Court.

I think that doctors, by nature, tend to want to make things work within a system, and it's a Canadian trait to be extra nice and



**'Privatization is too American? Why would the 30th-ranked system want to copy the 37th?'**

laced and say and work things through the system, but that hasn't. I think you're right, we have failed as a nation, and particularly we have failed as physicians to perhaps assert ourselves in the way we should have. I think it's wrong to blame doctors for the mess that governments have gotten into, and I think that one lesson we need to learn is that to have allowed governments over the last 20 years

to rely on health policy experts—for example, like those who said one of the problems was many doctors and let's close the medical schools, and here we are now with a legacy of a shortage of doctors—I think that we have a duty as physicians to be more assertive in letting the government know we have a better understanding of priorities in health care and health care delivery than individuals who have been advising them and have gotten these cuts this means in the past.

**With health care costs in Canada, initial private and public spending—up, I think, over \$100 billion a year, and still climbing, even with some private market, is the ability to provide health care outstripping our ability to pay for health care?**



**'Analysts told governments there were too many doctors. Now we have a major shortage.'**

I think so. But there's a lot we can do. We've got to learn why France can spend more than 40 per cent less per capita than we do and have no wait in their public system. I mean, there has to be a reason why you can get a hip replacement or an MRI within a week in France and per you might wait between six and 18 months or two years in Canada, and yet they're spending 40 per

cent less than we do. And I'm talking about public systems here. For some reason we have bought into this idea that the propaganda, that we have a second-class health system, when, as the Supreme Court noted, many patients are suffering and dying in wait lists. And one of the reasons we've been stuck is because this type of reform has been attacked as a threat toward Americanization. My answer to that is the World Health Organization ranks the U.S. system 37th in the world, and why would the fifth-ranked system want to copy the 37th when we can copy one of the top five? And so I think reform is coming. Some reforms are nervous about how to go about that, but we already see at least three provincial governments being proactive in that regard.

**Not repeating of Alberta, B.C. and Quebec?**  
Yes. And I think that other governments will be forced to follow suit. They cannot sustain the costs of health care while crime increases and education is starved of funding.

**I just want to ask you one more question about the private/public mix. One of your predecessors as president of the CMA, Dr. Albert Schweitzer, I think, suggested a 90/10 per cent public/private mix. Does that sound right to you?**

Well, we already have a 70/30 mix if you count dietary and drugs. I suppose Dr. Schweitzer must have been talking about the physician, or the direct delivery of what we define as medically necessary services, and I think it needs no more than five per cent or 10 per cent. In other words, there's no desire on my part, nor on the part of most doctors, to have a large component of private funding and delivery of health care, but I think that the public system needs some payback by which it is graded, measured and called to be accountable, and that has been lacking until the last few years. And to me, the so-called cure government and the contracting out are perfectly valid mechanisms to embrace the private sector. In other words, the patient doesn't necessarily have to pay out of their pocket for anything, that simply by allowing the private sector to compete alongside the public sector will help make the public sector better.

**There've been some articles in the Canadian Medical Association Journal and other places about doctors and academics having financial interests in some of the drugs for which they're writing guidelines. How big a concern is that, and is there enough being done about it?**

I think that it's important. I believe as doctors. For example, I'm a surgeon, and as a surgeon in our current system, a public system, if I see a patient who needs surgery,

and I know that patient has to have surgery, I will stand to make a financial gain. A bad doctor will abuse that type of situation. Those issues really speak to the ethics of physicians. If I say to you, "I think you should have chemotherapy, but I must warn you that I did research for this drug and I was actually paid something by the drug manufacturer," then you as a consumer can choose whether to accept the recommendation of that drug. I think it's talk about disclosure, and when there's a failure to disclose I think that's wrong, but I think the reality we live in a capitalist society and the drug and equipment manufacturers are where most of the designs of new equipment and the generation of new technologies and drugs come from. We need their help in funding research. I think it all comes down to disclosure.

**A CMA survey reported that half of the doctors in Canada were in an advanced stage of burnout, that one in three were using sedatives and one in five using tranquilizers. Other studies showed high rates of suicide among doctors. The CMA is a professional association, and from what I've been able to see it has nothing but voluntary programs to combat any of this. Is that something that needs to be addressed?**

**A** Part of the reason for that is overwork and unhappiness with the way our practices have developed. We have a doctor-to-patient ratio of 1:9 per thousand, and that compares with 1.5 per thousand in a recent survey of 12 European countries. And doctors are leaving the workforce, they're retiring early, and that puts more load on the coming workforce. What is the reason for that? The reason is that 25 to 30 years ago health policy analysts told governments that there were too many doctors and doctors were the cause of the problem, so they cut back on medical schools and now we have a major shortage of doctors. So that's not easily fixable. You can't just produce new doctors in a year or two.

**There's no question the system has problems, but when you're shown statistics like this about the health and well-being of doctors, surely doctors have to take some responsibility for it themselves, and verify as a professional organization the CMA has to take some responsibility for its members. This voluntary approach doesn't seem to be working.**

Well, I think that as a national association, yes. As you know, the association of health care is professional, and I think all professional colleges of physicians have agreements in this regard. Could they be better, and could they be more forceful or more effective? I'm sure they could be, and I think you raise a very valid point. ■

## NATIONAL



# HARPER'S ELEVEN



**MEET THE FIXER, THE ENFORCER, THE BEAUTY, THE BRAIN, THERE'S A NEW CREW OF POWER PLAYERS IN STEPHEN HARPER'S OTTAWA. THEY'RE NOT HIS FRIENDS. THEY'RE NOT POLICY WONKS. THEIR JOB IS TO DELIVER HIS PROMISES—AND THE NEXT ELECTION.**





## The ENFORCER

## IAN BRODIE

In the organizational history of many political leaders there's an initial period of chaos followed—if the leader is smart, lucky or both—by the arrival of a strong lieutenant who can impose order. Bill Clinton's White House was a mess for more than a year until Leon Panetta became his chief of staff. Jean Chrétien didn't start building a reputation as a disciplined leader until Jean Pelletier began enforcing discipline while the Chrétien Liberals were still in opposition. Today, several Conservatives say Stephen Harper didn't become an effective leader until he installed Ian Brodie as chief of staff last summer.

It could hardly have happened to a less likely figure. Brodie is a scruffy, confrontational academic who, unlike former congressman Paterson and former Quebec City mayor Fillion, has never been a candidate for elected office. His authority comes, not

from his title, but from his boss. Phil Murphy, Harper's first chief of staff had a hard time maintaining order as the Office of the Leader of the Opposition and he never gained Harper's complete trust. So formal chains of command were subverted by impromptu workarounds as MPs and staffers were over Murphy's head and straight to the leader. Those days ended when Harper brought Doug Foley, a senior Conservative organizer, in to review the OLC's operations in June 2005. Foley recommended ousting staffing chaos. Harper used the upheaval to replace Murphy with Brodie. Now there are no cold wars, not so much because Brodie will not tolerate them as because Harper no longer does.

It's his second unlikely assignment now for Brodie, who took a leave of absence from his job as a political science professor at the University of Western Ontario to become the fledgling Conservative party's executive director in 2004. "People thought, well, he'll be a natural guy to run the research shop or something," one Conservative said, "but not the whole party. He had no experience—but he

did a great job." Brodie discovered a talent for organizing the grassroots dinner-and-fundraising campaigns that have made the Conservatives a consistently better-financed party than the Liberals. And his intimate knowledge of the party's apparatus has been an asset in managing Harper's relations with the party.

Brodie's wife, Val, has been one of the party's main special-events coordinators. She organized the Montreal policy conference in 2005 that was an important part of Harper's plan to present a more moderate image for the party. On Harper's 2006 campaign, Brodie was with the leader on the plane, rarely spending as important as moving far from Harper's single-lane, Brodie's academic research focused on the role of courts in Canadian society, but his influence in the government's Language Block headquarters will not be ideological or philosophical, but pragmatic and moral. His mandate is to ensure that the Harper government moves firmly and purposefully—else Harper's rage does not dissolve into the dizziness and drift that plagued Martin's brief tenure.

BY PAUL WILLIAMS



## HE'S A SCRUFFY, FORMER ACADEMIC WHO CONTROLS ACCESS AND MAKES DECISIONS WHEN HARPER'S ABSENT

from physical stature or a throaty moan, but from Harper's confidence in him. Brodie was one of the main organizers of Harper's transition to government, working with clerk of the Privy Council Alex Hogg (left), whose departure has since been announced. Brodie co-ordinated the hiring of staffers for Harper's staff of policy managers, and he serves as Harper's gatekeeper, controlling access to the Prime Minister and making decisions on Harper's behalf when he's absent.

Senators say this is the biggest difference between Brodie, who declined requests for an OLC role: Harper's first chief of staff had a hard time maintaining order. Brodie won't



FACE OF THE PARTY: She knew her pouty and loopy were a faade. "It that was the only role I was playing, I wouldn't feel comfortable."

## The RESURTY

## RONA AMBROSE

At just 36, Rena Ambrose is uncharacteristically young to be a federal cabinet minister. And with a childhood spent mainly in Brazil, but also Indonesia and Egypt, she brings a unique byproduct to the job. But perhaps the most unusual thing about Ambrose is her current fitness regimen: she starts her day by slipping "Introductory Yoga for Seniors" into the DVD player. Not that the environmental minister is a wimp. The instructional disc was a gift from her investment banker husband, who worried the demands of political life were causing her to neglect her health. He thought it featured standard yoga exercises. When images of pink crests and waxes appeared, Ambrose decided to keep using it anyway. "It gets me laughing in the morning. All the moves are made in a relaxing way, turning."

This would be the place to insert a plucky metaphor about Ambrose needing to keep her balance in rough political waters. In fact, her role does demand a keen sense of equilibrium. As an Edmonton MP, she's expected to be seen at Alberta's oil and gas industry but as environmental minister, she must also craft a new Conservative policy on the Kyoto climate change treaty. Throughout the election campaign, Harper walked a fine line—sharply critical of the Liberal approach to Kyoto, but never committing himself to abandoning the treaty. That strategic ambiguity seemed clearly designed to tell the energy industry what it wanted to hear, without ignoring a stream of criticism from environmental groups. So far, Ambrose is staying in the same grey area on the trade-off between Kyoto and the oil and gas industry. Asked if Canada would keep its Kyoto commitment in a red net greenhouse gas embolism, she said, "The question isn't Kyoto—it's climate change. And climate change is a global issue. It's not about oil and gas."

Actually, the big question mark hangs over federal environmental policy in Ottawa. Brodie is tough to knock off message. That elected in 2004, she quickly emerged as a confident presence on Harper's opposition benches. A key architect of the "Tory position" on Kyoto—direct payments to provinces with young kids instead of support for regulated industries—the spread was morally won by Sen. Dwyer, then the Liberal minister in charge of the file. Her network of Canadian women were fond of "old white guys" like Dwyer, telling them how to raise their children made national headlines. Harper fired her as a speaker at the Montreal convention that

established the new Conservative party's environmental policy framework, and then lost her prominence in Tory advertising. Clearly, her youth and looks would hinder Harper's message. "I'm happy to play that role," she says. "It that was the only role that I was playing, I wouldn't feel comfortable with it at all."

Ambrose is eager to be seen as a policy-driven politician with a national perspective. She spent most of her first 14 years in Brazil (her father worked for an oil exploration company), and says that's made her appreciate Canada all the more. Her parents at the University of Alberta, where she earned a master's degree in political science, was Allen Tapper,

## AN ENVIRONMENT MINISTER FROM ALBERTA, SHE MUST CRAFT A POLICY ON KYOTO. IT'S A FINE BALANCE.

now of the University of British Columbia. Tapper is none other than the Ottawa's role in the federalism that gave us Alberta's academic order. "He's a strong federalist," Ambrose says. "And there's not a lot of people left in the academic field who have such a position for Canada." With that emphasis, the right help ease fears of a provincial rights case on Harper's regime. "United with one of his most demanding files, and one of the most controversial in his home province, Ambrose is getting her chance to prove that other baby will see the new Conservatives in force of the camera, she can make an impact behind closed doors.

BY JOHN GEORGE

The HATCHETMAN

# MAXIME BERNIER

It's not long before a conversation with Maxime Bernier leads into a discussion you might not expect from an industry insider.

"We must decide, as a society, whether we're going to have more state intervention in the economy or not," the vocal MP from Quebec's *Beauce* region says. "We'd more freedom or less."

Last state intervention in the economy? More freedom? He's the industry minister. Haven't his officials headed him yet?

In point of fact, when Bernier sat down with a *Maclean's* reporter recently, he was in the midst of the extensive briefing from public servants that greet every new minister at every department. But Bernier brings his own agenda to Ottawa, and it will be fascinating to see whether he can execute his ideas with the rough and tumble of life in a minority government.

All the more fascinating because the stakes are so high. Even before he was elected as part of Harper's bumper crop of 19 Quebec MPs, some in Bernier's party were talking about him as a possible future Conservative prime minister of Canada. He's loud, assertive and soft-spoken. He's a former vice-president of

a book entitled *Par un autre monde* (or *Through another world*), a book that was a surprise best-seller. *Par un autre monde* (or *Through another world*) is a book that was a surprise best-seller. *Par un autre monde* (or *Through another world*) is a book that was a surprise best-seller.

Bernier's far tax book was a product of his brief tenure as the head of the *Forum économique de Montréal*, a liberal think tank that also regularly calls for private-sector health care. Bernier is quick to point out the Montreal think-tank's opinions aren't necessarily his own. "This might as well say that I'm the spokesman for the insurance industry because I used to work at Standard Life." But there is a stubborn small-government streak in his comments. "I said over and over again during the campaign that what we need is less government on our backs and less government in our pockets."

What does that mean in practice? Baby

steps. Bernier sits on the Harper cabinet's powerful position and planning committee, which will try to ensure the government can deliver quickly on a few key promises (he pulled agencies concerned it had funding cutbacks and putting out fires). Some of these priorities were contrived by Harper's campaign, including a cut to the GST. But Bernier hopes to add his own program, an overhaul of Canada's foreign investment rules, which by some estimates make Canada a harder country to invest in than most in the OECD. "The message we want to send is that we're open to business and we're open to foreign investment, with certain conditions."

After that, he'll tackle telecommunications regulation and government subsidies to business. In the latter case, his goal won't be to cut off recipients cold turkey. Instead, he plans to require, for the first time, that businesses publicly disclose their loan repayments—or their failure to repay. Noting and shaming delinquent businesses, a first step, perhaps, toward a smaller Industry Department and a higher profile for the new cabinet star from Quebec. **BY PAUL WELLS**



## HE'S ARGUED THAT DISCRIMINATION BASED ON INCOME—TAKING THE RICH MORE—IS AS BAD AS ANY OTHER KIND

Standard Life of Canada, H&M Holdings, Jifall, a little more comfortable in French. He's a half-Jacobson manner who will soon begin daily morning runs with his new cabinet colleague, Stoddart. Jifall: "It's the best way to get rid of stress," he jokes. "I'm supposed to be smiling and welcoming journalists."

And he has shown more zeal for rolling back the size and function of government than is normally fashionable at the headquarters of the mighty, business-subsidizing, regulation-rich move Industry Department on Queen Street in Ottawa. In 2003, Bernier wrote

**STAR KICKER:** Soon before he was elected, some in the party spoke of him as future PM.



## AT 18, PATRICK MANNING WAS HIS HERO. NOW HE RUNS BOTH STRATEGY AND POLICY FOR HARPER.

were designed for working class conservatives that Muttart understands so well.

At the University of Ottawa in the early '90s, Muttart paid his way through school by mowing lawns and washing dishes at Montreal's *Le Grand*. He could have had a job on the *11th* line, his column, but he was uncomfortable with the *Maclean's* high Tory culture. After graduation, his first paid political job was for Premier Manning. He then moved to Toronto to work in public affairs and marketing. In the summer of 2005, when internal doubt about Harper was at its highest and many morale was low, Muttart was recruited by Doug Finley to work in the leader's office on election planning.

In the PMO, Muttart's work will be an extension of that job. The PMO is divided into a "four-box" organizational system. One box handles day-to-day issue management. One unit does media relations. One unit does policy. And one unit is in charge of "forward planning." Muttart owns forward planning. By definition, that requires his input in the other three units as well. When the Prime Minister gives a speech, Muttart, or makes a major policy announcement, it will follow an overall strategic plan conceived in some degree or other to Muttart's brain.

It is an all-consuming job, perfectly suited to Muttart. "Patrick's grinding away all the crap, thinking, checking, changing," says Campbell, who credits that after long meetings asking the election, as usual from Muttart as collected, expanded and improved on them discussed would already be in his inbox by the time Campbell arrived in his desk.

Muttart reportedly does have some particular interests, including a gift for his 10-year-old nephew. "I've never been religious when he had the time to keep his shoes so shiny," says Campbell. "They glow." It's not clear if he's a bit of a perfectionist. **BY ANDREW THOM**

## The BRAIN

# PATRICK MUTTART

As an 18-year-old high school student in Woodstock, Ont., Patrick Muttart heard news that his political hero, Premier Manning, was

the leader of the Reform party, was coming to speak at Wilfrid Laurier University. He was drawn and highlighted it to Waterloo. It was 1991, and Muttart was already among the first 100 paid members of the Reform party in Ontario. (A self-writing, only child from a working-class family, Muttart had quit the Liberal party by age 15, and the Progressive Conservative party by age 17.) Arriving on campus, Muttart watched as Manning and his entourage approached the lecture hall. His excitement was uncontrollable.

"Stephen J. Harper?" Muttart exclaimed when he caught sight of Manning's steel companion. "Chief policy officer?"

Muttart, whose credentials was top-of-the-class political grad, was assigned by his fellow brothers good looks, is now at age 34, Stephen J. Harper's deputy chief of staff. By all accounts, he is one of the most brilliant and most talented political operatives ever to work in the PMO. Muttart's friend, Liberal "wanderer" Warren Kinsella, says it's rare for a single individual to be associated with both policy and strategic ideas inside the PMO. But it's equally rare, he says, for one individual to be as gifted as both in Ottawa.

There may be no one in Canada who has made a greater study of election tactics around the English-speaking world than Muttart. "Patrick studies politics even when dinner is cooking going on," says Greg Kyle, who was Muttart's former boss at *Newsprint*, a private communications firm. "Some people go home and watch their favourite television show. Patrick would go home and watch his favourite political ads. He's studied every campaign he looks for his workers."

Muttart's genius for strategy and his aptness of psychometrics in relating those







## The WORKHORSE

## KEVIN LYNCH

By making economic Kevin Lynch is his new clerk of the Privy Council—the nation's top public servant—Stephen Harper may get more than he bargained for. Paul Martin certainly did. As Martin's deputy minister of Finance from 2000 to 2004, the hard-headed Cape Bretoner proved to be a likely to meet up with a man as no carry on his initials.

Anyone who got his professional start, as Lynch did in the 1970s, managing the country's enormous debt at the Bank of Canada, could be forgiven for developing a taste for fiscal restraint. But Lynch was a champion of more than balanced budgets. While serving as deputy minister of industry from 1985 to 2000, statistics coming his desk showed Canada falling behind the United States in living standards because businesses were less efficient. This "productivity gap" was an nagging argument and a highly snappish repolitical message. The government didn't want to admit politicians or business leaders that overlooked his an agenda for making people work harder. But Lynch pushed, personally lobbying Jean Chrétien's PMO, and leading PowerPoint decks showing how

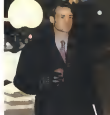
Canadians were poorer than Americans, right down to the man they drove (Honda Civic vs. Toyota Camry). And productivity may be merged into the "innovation agenda," Lynch championed increased research spending, Internet access for schools, and the Canadian Research Chairs program, aimed at attracting the "best brains."

Lynch took the engineering and legendary work habits with him to Martin's Finance Department. "He was instrumental in convincing the government to lower the corporate tax rate and reduce the capital tax," recalls Don Drummond, a finance associate deputy minister. Though he spends late nights working closely with Martin, Lynch revels in public labels. "I worked within 10 feet of him for 15 years and I wouldn't have a clue if he was Liberal or Conservative," says Drummond. Lynch is above all an ideas man, who speaks with a graduate student's enthusiasm on such matters as, say, the links between the American current account deficit and the lack of public pensions in China.

When Martin became prime minister, many expected Lynch to become his clerk. When he didn't, he headed to Washington as a director of the International Monetary Fund.

At the Privy Council Office, he will have his work cut out for him: The PCO must school new cabinet ministers who have never been in a governing party, let alone ministers of the Crown. He'll have to figure out how to achieve the remarkable cost savings implicit in Harper's platform, and address the vexing issue of fiscal federalism. He will replace another prodigious and first-energizing clerk, Alastair Hains, whose passion was social policy. Lynch is likely to be the economist in charge of that endeavor. "He is focused and disciplined and the sort of guy who is going to have his hands on the file," says a top minister of state for Finance Minister Flaherty. "Don't be too surprised to find him in his office on Sunday. I've found him on many more."

BY LUCIA CH. SAVAGE



## The SCRIPTWRITER

## MARK CAMERON

Mark Cameron is unusual in the Prime Minister's Office for two reasons. For one, he used to be a Liberal. For another, one of the first things Stephen Harper did when he returned to Ottawa as Canadian Alliance leader in 2000 was to fire Mark Cameron.

But it's not so simple. Cameron, an award-winning 17-year-old from British Columbia, was a protégé of policy for the new government. The model for Cameron's job is the role Chrétien himself played in Jean Chrétien's first PMO. The title is modestly vague—Cameron as "manager," not a "director"—but he will play a key role in seeing the future path for the Conservatives whether they hang onto power or get kicked out of Parliament and into another election.

Cameron's job is to manage the flow of MCOs, the "Memos to Cabinet" that outline proposed changes to legislation and regulation, today inside their way through the four policy committees of cabinet: economic affairs, social affairs, foreign affairs and security, and Treasury Board. But Cameron, once Conservative insider, said, is also in charge of "a new positive policy formulation"—the design of ideas for government several months in the future, or far in a new election platform if one is needed.

It's the latest sign in a growing relationship between Harper and Cameron that started off badly. When Cameron began his

EC 2000. Afterward, Cameron, he once worked for Stephen Harper. Now he governs ministers.

political life as a Liberal—wouldn't delegate for Jean Chrétien in the 1996 leadership convention in Calgary? (Politicians still prefer to let an old minister David Emerson and Stephen Doon. He crossed the bureaucracy after the 1997 campaign and didn't work again in elected politics until 2000.) They became leaders of the new Canadian Alliance. Cameron is a devoted former Catholic who once wrote a scathing about Catholics and politics and who today has four children; he was awarded to Day's social conservatism in much as to the Alliance's economic conservatism. Perhaps the low point in Cameron's political career came during the 2000 election, when he

helped organize the photo opportunity in Niagara Falls where they danced, incorrectly, that the water there flows from north to south. Cameron stayed on in Day's office and Harper became the chief of staff in 2000. His dismissal was nothing personal, just a matter of Harper replacing the old leader's staff with a new staff. But Cameron stayed close to key Harper advisers, including economics expert Ken Boessenikoff and electoral organizer Patrick Muzzum. They brought Cameron back into the Conservative war room for the 2004 campaign.

After the election, Cameron and Muzzum co-authored a long, detailed memo describing the new government's strategy. Cameron played a key role in the PMO. The title is modestly vague—Cameron as "manager," not a "director"—but he will play a key role in seeing the future path for the Conservatives whether they hang onto power or get kicked out of Parliament and into another election. In the 2004 campaign, Cameron was a prominent figure in the Conservative war room. With Boessenikoff he was responsible for "scripting"—coordinating policy, message, visuals and logistics to four events: national debate campaign, message instead of simply filing up the leader's day.

Now Cameron will help script the Conservative government's entire policy agenda. He controls the flow of new ideas to and through the cabinet committees. He oversees the development of a governing Conservative philosophy over the longer term. More than any other individual except the leader, Mark Cameron will decide what the new government talks about.

BY PAUL WELLS

## The EXECUTOR

## JOHN BAIRD



BAIRD IS PROBABLY WITH LAWRENCE HARPER, AND NOT THE PM'S TEAM

Those surprised that John Baird was accepted so quickly into the Prime Minister's inner circle probably should have seen it coming. Harper kicked off his 2004 national election campaign at Baird's headquarters in Ottawa. What Stephen Lawrence Harper is a personal friend. He has been known to ask Baird, who is single, to be his escort to social events when he has had a lot of women, unlike Cameron with Baird close to door.

New Baird, 56, is a Canadian census president of the Treasury Board. His portfolio is the entire of the government's mandate to restore ethics and accountability in Ottawa. No one goes around anything in any department without going to Treasury Board that there

initiative is properly designed and will be implemented on budget—even if a program has already been authorized by the Finance Department. Baird will apply the terms of Harper's Accountability Act in the real functioning of government. It is a job that involves heavy interface with the public sector, the Finance Department, and the Prime Minister's Office. Baird and Harper have connected Baird with executing the most important part of his election platform. Baird is careful not to overstate the closeness of his relationship with the Prime Minister. Harper is not a personal friend. What's interesting about Baird is not how they describe their friendship with him, but how they describe their relationship together. In Baird's case, "It's not like we go to ball games together. In Michael Fortin's case, 'It's not like we go to golf together.' In Michael Wilson's case, 'It's not like we're drinking buddies.'"

Baird is unapologetic, however, about his genuine friendship with Finance Minister Jim Flaherty. Baird co-chaired Flaherty's failed 2004 bid for leader of the Ontario Conservative party. Baird was first elected as Ontario MPP in 1997. Since then, Baird's reputation as a leader, loyal ally of the Mike Harris Conservative Revolution. In Baird's case, a minister of community and social services, he was in charge of the controversial work for welfare plan. Transferring over 450,000 people from the welfare rolls to grateful employment or education is still one of his proudest accomplishments. Baird and Flaherty visit with each other for regular chats. Indeed, Flaherty finds it laughable—he usually laughs uproariously at the suggestion that the day will ever come again when the finance minister will claim he has no idea about what's going on in Treasury. "John and I will work very closely together," he says. "It's not just saying 'no.' Or saying 'no' to something. It will take some time to see that. As well, I will be a part of it."

Baird's ability to work peacefully and effectively with the conservative central bank and regulators to achieve greater ethics in government will be a great test of his management skills. "Baird is not a bloody person, so I think that will bring a professionalism that is necessary," says party insider Tim Powers. "It's a rare breed in that I have a lot of good friends in other parties," says Baird. "I've been around them by the enthusiasm and the willingness of the public service, from the top on down, to work with the new government. It's a chance for discipline. A chance for focus," he says.

The focus, as Baird makes clear, is clearing up. Not clearing down. What is helpful for Baird's career, however, is that his connections are public servants. Even so, he shows no signs of pretending his philosophical beliefs. "It's not going to be an all-or-none exit ball," he asserts.

BY LUCIA CH. SAVAGE



AN INSIDER: Some claim who've worked beside him for years can't say if he's Liberal or Tory



## THE LIFE OF THE PARTIES

What 'Hillites' do after hours in Harper's Ottawa

**BY MARINE GEORGE** • Ottawa is not much the city that fans forget, as Allen Fotheringham famously wrote in the pages of this magazine, as it is a city where fans are as much painfully self-conscious. The downtown core is small-townish, but "Hillites"—politicians, parliamentarians, lobbyists and journalists—tend to define themselves as a first by four-block radius, and secondly, to a handful of storied establishments. By 11 a.m. on Tuesdays, the Indian Club, 150 York Street, is packed with Hillites. If you work on Parliament Hill, you live in one of these places, and everybody knows everything about you—when you work for your ideological profile, your drink of choice. If they don't, you're doing something wrong.

They call it midlife-buzz, but in reality, Parliament Hill is not like an enormous high-school cafeteria, with its popular kids on benches, its good boys and its usual-behavior hangers-on. As in any high school environment, social prestige is hard-won and precarious, and while the players remain more or less the same throughout your tour of the place, the power dynamic shifts depending on who's running the student council, who's doing the homecoming queen, and who made captain of the rugby team. Following the recent election, a new social order has shifted their rightful seats. The club is subtle, but for members, ask large: Former opposition members, now



GEORGEY GOSS is the same. He knows, like D'Arcy MacKay's (left) and Manning Trevis (above). Personal lives aren't open secrets.

elaborate purveyors of fine AAA Alberta beef, is a popular spot among senators and others who favour classic ravy hunkers with it. It's not unusual to see the new PM's associate parked next door. Near there is the restaurant the Marquis Ranch, a chic, dimly lit cocktail lounge, where on one recent night, the PM's new communications director, the president of the Liberal party, high-profile members of the press gallery, and assorted senior staffers and lobbyists could all be found drinking and soaking together in an amiable sort of convivial and familiar ravy about being in it as a group of people paid to exploit their positions of power, pressure and concealed relations with one another, and create one an-



SOCIAL BYTANKS is not divided along party lines, as you'd expect.

derly facility with the Ottawa language. "There's no anonymity in Ottawa," says Peter Donnelly, former communications director for Jean Chrétien, who now helps run the Toronto-based market research firm Strategic Counsel. "You always have to watch what you say. There are always people around in restaurants, and if you're in a shopping mall, you don't want to be seen peeling at your kids."

Despite the countervailing between politicians and the press—and indeed because of it—much of the interest Hill could life just unperturbed. It's fairly generally more in the feeling, especially among cheerleaders, that you have to be somewhat guarded," says Tary

MP Robert Joffe, who was also recently appointed to serve as national caucus chair. "It's ultimately, I think what happens at these establishments tends to say there. There's a level of trust and people come to check their partisan shapes and attitudes at the door." Sure, people make career changes, one Liberal staffer says—who's added to what, who's doing their 20-year-old intern, who's gay—but people more or less stay out of each other's personal lives. "When it comes to gossip, people tend to think more along the lines of who's seen with which lobbyist, which lobbyist which newspaper and who showed up."

Both sides of the House feature restaurants for Hillites in Wednesday night at D'Arcy MacKay's, an Irish pub beloved for its warm rooms in late and late hours, its Celtic band, and, most of all, its extreme proximity to Parliament Hill. "Wednesday is the night that both MPs and staff go together," says one Tory staffer. "It's a social day, sort of like a child day is school, and everyone's lined up from the big question period and it's guaranteed everyone's going to be in town." Of late, D'Arcy's has had some competition in Montreal's newly opened restaurant and bar on the ground floor of 100 Sussex, the ultra-modern condominium building recently erected next to the Chelsea. Lament that the new place has no parking, as Hillites know, and Alan Manning.

A popular opinion among Liberals is that, with Harper in office, life on the Hill will be more more vivid. "Mostly the guys, they tend to go out and socialize, see people and be seen. Christen's guys too," says one Liberal staffer who managed to hang on to his job after the shakeup. "[Harper's guys] won't go out and socialize where there are reporters and staffers. You'll see less of an interplay between the centre and everybody else." For their part, staffers prefer, Liberals won't be dominant at the social scene either. "These days, half of them are unemployed and both of us are sharing ourselves up for the upcoming leadership race. Reasoned leadership hopefuls have started hitting newspapers on the Hill. Stronach is the best, says a Liberal staffer member who recently attended one such function, because she brings in her own concern and decorum bears fully."

That age-old straw-pole—which party has the most fans—continues to rage on. "I always heard Liberals say, 'Oh, we know how to party. We're much more open to it,'" says Joffe, "but the reality was that whenever there were some late parties or big events, you'd always have the Conservatives sitting down the place." Definitely seems the street from the Marquis Ranch, where Liberals and Tories habitually together, is an unassuming public school the Highbury House. There, one Tory staffer is not, gazing out the window, is where NDPers hang out—not that anyone here cares. ■

# LIGHTLY GRILLED

Polite, but pointless, the Supreme Court nomination hearing could have used a lot more American style

**BY LISA CH. BAKER** • "It damn all an easy way and a hard way, the Canadian way, choose the hard way," quipped Marshall Rothstein, the federal appellate judge from Manitoba who last week became the first ever to conduct a public consultation hearing before his elevation to the Supreme Court of Canada. Or maybe not so hard. After years of wars, says that Canada's public questioning could only lead to the success of an American style inquisition, it was barely an interplay. The two nations' judicial systems to have little in common beyond the presence of politicians and a judge.

To begin with, the Canadian questioning came, preferably, after members of all four parties had approved the candidate. In an experimental process begun by the Liberal government's last minister, a last-of-its-kind was whisked down to a short list of three by an advisory committee that included members

of all political parties. It was from this short list that Prime Minister Stephen Harper made his pick. This left the questioners remaining to make one another with preconditions of Robson's "intelligence" and "wit," while the 64-year-old jurist sat with eyes forward and hands folded, blushing like a new pupil he made his work over. "After that," Robson said, "only half an hour," "I'll have nothing to say but down."

But even if the people's direct representation isn't his kind when they say, it wouldn't have mattered. Unlike the American senators who actually vote on the nominee, the Canadian MPs had no say. The decision remains, as it always has, the Prime Minister's. Harper has said he will continue to study changes to the system to make it more democratic and transparent, though if all judges serve until their mandatory retirement age of 75, the more they won't serve again until 2011.

The theatre differed too, beginning with the stage. In Washington, members of the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee took their questions down from a raised platform like lightning bolts from Mount Olympus. The nominee

**CIVILITY** Supreme Court candidate Marshall Rothstein faced a mostly softball question.







## Turns out life isn't a carnival

Joseph Boyden tries to get into the spirit of the first post-Katrina Mardi Gras, but something just feels wrong

I've become convinced nobody can ever fully define what Mardi Gras is, that no one can really find just what they're looking for in the mad week where the city spills to many times its normal size, where drinks are, made serenas, beautiful painted women, fat men without pants, skinny girls without shirts, clown, voodoo, thirteens, some statistics and in between willing to have it all for the chance of catching guilty smokers that dare making the parade floaters throw out. And I'm even more convinced, having participated as New Orleans' first post-Katrina editor-in-chief of this year's season, that we are further away than ever before from understanding just what the biggest mass party in America is supposed to mean and how it defines us.

No question that a weekend permeated this year's party. Of course, we will need to dig deeper or no day is by faring a little more than usual, by anything louder to "Throw me something, sweet!" by pursuing the whims of our desires, but the masks and face paint and drunken smiles will still be back. Our city is in use and, very possibly morally. It certainly will never be the same, and New Orleans that it necessarily like change.

This Mardi Gras proved a particularly strange one for me for a few personal reasons. My dear son Sauron and his husband, Danoson, flew all the way from Cape Town, South Africa, along with their friend John, to spend it in the madness. Sam and I have lived in Cape Town for 15 years, and my distance to see them is rare. When they say

going they should come with Amanda and me. I ignored that warning, but in the back of my head and demanded they show up.

About the warning: I was told after family members down for Carnival before just before the season arrives, the main tradition of Mardi Gras makes me begin salivating for a shot of whiskey and the sound of a steady rhythm. But I blocked out the less pretty memories: the promise in America, in midnight strikes on Ash Wednesday and we're crawling home from Frenchman Street, that next year when Mardi Gras comes, we'll take a little vacation away from the city. As much fun as it is, the intensity of hundreds of thousands marching for something they won't ever obtain, packed into a few days, is occasionally, even spiritually, exhausting. But I told Sauron and Danoson to come anyway. After all, our city needed this Mardi Gras experience, and the more visitors, the merrier.

The other strange aspect of Mardi Gras this year: as CBC editors over, headed by the charismatic and tall Elen Solomon, we headed down to document the city and my life in it. Nothing is more unlike my regular life than during Carnival. My means of writing in the morning, mornings long like ride in the afternoon, racing, and then writing online completely thrown to the winds. A camera crew following me around on the most detached of days. What if I go down and make a fool of myself? What else could my friends think of me as I'm being trailed by camera and crew, other than I must really believe I'm a



**KID TIDES** Bourbon Street is not better and the dancers are back, but many fans are gone and there is no one left to rebuild it.

self-important crazy? Oh boy, here we go.

To top a cliff, I was invited to actually ride in one of the parades, basically, one of the biggest, with close to 30 massive floats, 18 marching bands, hundreds of riders, and thousands of pounds of beads to be thrown to the screaming masses on Sunday night. All of this on the first Mardi Gras to mark the comeback of the city of New Orleans.

And so it arrives. School is back for the week, and Amanda and I head to our first parade of the season on Thursday night (so funny or like our old Friday morning). The evening is marked by two big parade krewes (krewes are the clubs that organize the festivities): the all-white Krewe of Canis, and the all-black Krewe of Muses. More parade krewes ripple along grander lines, but not all. Two of my favorites, Zulu and Orpheus, allow beads made and female riders to take part, but most others follow very strict and antiquated rules that make outsiders downright awkward. As I said, most New Orleans fans are very resistant to change.

The environment in the swelling crowd of adults and children goes to police stress across the announcement of the first parade. Flashback to 1993, an angry post-racey black man and resident of the city, having been played by Lolla Amos's race. They carry torches to the parade, the crowd is dropped

to their heads, flames shooting up and lighting the sidewalks. Flashback to 1993, an angry post-racey black man and resident of the city, having been played by Lolla Amos's race. They carry torches to the parade, the crowd is dropped

Chaos rolls by, the men in their masks and men looking creepily like Klansmen, especially those with pointed heads on their hats, which show the crowd. There's always a king or queen in the front of the parade, and the king of Chaos was an older man dressed in white rags, a white shiny top and a silly-looking pug-dog head wig, waving a little scepter over us. For Chaos is over before I realize it, and I remember that many of the



first float, and so I abandoned my head-crushing mission and catch up with friends Amanda and I keep a quiet night tonight. We know what the weekend brings, and besides, Amanda is coming down with a cough.

I promised the CBC people I'd take them to a "decoration tour." Something that felt slightly explosive, slightly wrong, it was the new town? I've heard about people in the last few months taking bus tours of the most devastated neighborhoods. But despite my qualms, I went. I went to see what had happened to such big parts of the city.

We held out after Krews and I are up with little legal rules. I try to pretend that June, the sound person, and Ed, the camera man, aren't filming from inside from the back of my wheel. As we pick our way through New Orleans, leaving the island, the "Show by the Show" that was nearly unscathed, and heading down to the downtown on Claiborne and beyond.

Where the industrial section in the Lower Ninth, showing a boat where we're seeing, the road, dead trees tucked away from the eyes of the French Quarter tourists. Every street is virtually empty. Black after black of empty houses, their corners when a yellowed mass on the paved sidewalks. On one endless street, Evan and I explore a house left open, a house spilling out onto the porch. We open up a little black case, and inside is a camera, meant from the flood and looting. It is almost the co-processor of this view, some driving with artists, cameras and like roller skaters. Even so, if I feel guilty for celebrating Mardi Gras when so many residents have nothing anymore. Yes, there's a lot of that, I repeat, but the city has to celebrate Mardi Gras this year. Not to hear it's unimaginable. And thank of the long-term memories that they depend on tourism and needs to desperately if it's going to survive at all. The streets and shops follow in my view.

Friday leads into Sunday. I get used to being on streets, trying to see manually. Sauron, Danoson and John have arrived from Cape Town via Hong Kong and Singapore.

I think of that old woman, left dead in her wheelchair' the first float, and so I abandoned my head-crushing mission and catch up with friends Amanda and I keep a quiet night tonight. We know what the weekend brings, and besides, Amanda is coming down with a cough.

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**PARADE ON:** The Mardi Gras parade (top) and boys inspecting an illegal water hose from a house across the street.

pond, the statue of a girl ended in their good-looking and healthy faces. But they're gone for exploring the city, and I take them out to parties, to a party, to some bars. There's nothing like the old song version to Carnival when you're a victim of this illness and it began looking normal. You get up to it with fresh, open-minded you with you look in the first place. We wear costumes, we make puns and making. And we go on, the camera crew following, someone pray I keep myself calm and collected. Tomorrow I ride in my first parade, and I've managed to stay. Tomorrow a few more to go.

Now also what to expect in terms of riding in parades. I've told to be in the downtown corner close to 30 a.m. Sunday, this place that was the scene of so much pain and sadness on Monday. I think of the old woman dead in her wheelchair, covered by a blanket, as I walk through the very same downtown was shadowed by the house, the men in head-up, men in head-up to the front with heads.

And then it's off to the Hilton, where we dress up in our party costumes. My Sauron and Danoson are designated to be apples, and the first float is a Disney-looking apple

[illegible]

When a par. rolls around, and none of the parade riders seems pretty well into the scene, we load onto our floats and begin the journey to our waiting point. Once there, big bunches of sambas and beer are served.

John's so drunk he doesn't know the girls don't want his kisses

Donovan comments that he has never seen such beefy men. As they line up for another helping, I recognize the Louisiana fuf of the well-to-do. But I push away the negativity. I've been invited by them to take part in one of the city's great traditions. I will not think any negative thoughts. We pass \$600 times. I pop open a beer and take a big drink.

It's tough to put into words the madness of row after row of screaming people cheering at you to throw them something, any thing. We roll down Napoleon Avenue in the gloaming, make a turn down St. Charles. I catch glimpses of Ed, the CBC cameraman, filming me as he fights his way through the crowd. God, I stare: look ridiculous in my group. The film crew will leave after the parade, and that one of their kind will be even

On and on we go, the darkness of night falling, people screaming at me, practically begging. Once in a while the parade mysteriously halts, and these become my favorite times. I can make out the faces of kids and see them from far below. I throw long strands of beads to everyone who wants them. I try to remain politically correct, despite the side-by-side me demanding that if a pretty girl wants a bead, the most shoddy horse something. By the end, when we roll back into the convention or arena, I think I am the only rider in the line.

The ball, Amanda and my sister, Serenae, are waiting for Donovan and me, but nobody informed me that we are expected to bring our own drinks and food. What kind of ball is that? Women in very sexy, sexy

including naturalists and biologists, who spend a fortunate time themselves in finding something like rain forests, at all levels and with for their part, not to arrive on their feet. Thousands of people in the same range, but unlike 30 months ago, there is much more food and drink. Animals are undeniably happy. She has spent 90 hours thinking of what waiting for rain, watching the weather of what any globe sandwiches and wine and her with nothing, only the dignity not to go begging. The power of this is I believe we are not like those others. We are very different. Doing this once—only. But not again.

**M**onday is spent trying to get the image and sound of the trainees screaming at me out of my head. There now is Mark Gray. The Big One. Sensitive and Downcast, seen versus by the experience of the last few days. Depressed, like me. But they tell me they're having a wonderful time, really. Wh-



all seems to have lost our centers, feeling ungrounded by the complete lack of anything around us but parties and drinks. Except for Amanda, she's grounded. She freely admits: "I don't go back to my room for her. To me it's all off."

Ciplwright and early Mardi Gras Day Amanda has decided to stay in bed and nurse her cold. I put on my kilt and waistcoat. I don't want to be walking around in my same old skin today even more than Halloween in this city. This is a day to dress up, to assume an

other personality. I've gotten Suzanne and Donovan and their friend John up, but as these look dangerously exhausted I've seen this look before with Marki Goss Virginia, the thorned-yard-stare as they push through the swelling crowds of St. Charles Avenue in front of an old RV selling real burbanes, we watch the madness of the day unfold.



**CHINA: POLISH**  
The Chinese government is looking for good reasons to host the 2008 Olympics. First up is the right way to export and then put it to use. To help improve relations with the world, China is looking for ways to export its goods and services.



**PARTY REPORTS:** A blue-ops caucus leads the Mass parade; a novelty tin at sea

in *It's a mostly African-American parade*, but they allow whites and women to ride as well. Very progressive for this era. Zulu begins as a mockery of the white man's parades early in the 20th century. Zulu's king is a black man in full Al Johnson blackface and big Afro wig. The rest of the riders, black, white, women, race, are dressed in blackface and Afro wig as well, and wear grass skirts and throw spears and coconuts to the crowd. Amazing to watch as first on a Tuesday morning.

The long walk after Zulu, from the Garden District to the French Quarter, is another tradition with my friends and me. I still smile for my sister. It's as if the miles have on a forced march of the city by 5 p.m. we've retraced our way through the Garden District, the Warehouse District, through the Central Business District, made a stop at a friend's bar for refreshments, and taken the final plunge to the Quarter. By the point, Suzanne is fed up, but like a brave soldier she doesn't shy from the boots against an old car and switch to the singing and dancing. I tell her to go home when she needs to, but she holds on. It's only me, then that I'm forcing myself to hold on. She and The embowered and have to

up another in 15 minutes, the  
to get an early light to "turn  
around," I see that none of the  
here are forcing themselves, no  
looks in. Time for the French  
Q

The final tradition of Mardi  
gras parade and I mean in from  
Blacksmith Shop on the lower  
level late afternoon every day. The  
obscure but American, always  
treat out a fire, battery and  
watching crowd. David, a close  
mountain of a man, a dressed  
not pompous, but in more subtle  
like quickly with him that gives  
this meaning and he has been  
trying to convince they look he  
street. Sometimes and sometimes  
are going to take a walk up  
that they'll be back in a bit, but  
they won't be, and don't say  
seen everything they need to  
John, though, is getting used  
He approaches all the party  
lowest tier, David's team can  
don't want his attention

The second group to the lower  
Gras is for those left standing  
in our way to Frenchman Street to  
to see the residents who still live  
to remain. I try to ask him  
myself, but the sadness has led  
I now need to act as babysitter  
Cape Town. He remembers and  
to us strangers, and very easily  
cluded by a Vietnamese woman  
who has clearly had enough of  
the end of the line of persons  
John that we should go on  
the owner, and walk to the  
follows. I'd paid him for his  
but he's hungry, and really, not  
And so it goes, the first  
New Orleans. We survey pass  
mostly white crowd, not a  
of walking all the other back  
was to say John is standing  
going to himself. Along Borne  
the edge of the "Silver by the  
side of the deserted projects. I  
for me, feeling ridiculous  
do I do this year after year? I  
need to promote Annals that  
Mardi Gras, we really will take  
than old and sad and sometimes

After hours of walking, and  
John who has been round, I make  
that's what this place will be  
when I begin to feel very  
me to do it means he's not  
quietly, unless my code, pull  
and crowd trooped beside us  
Mardi Gras doesn't represent  
I realize as I try to fall asleep  
middle near Cape Town



ALL PHOTOGRAPHS BY AP/WIDE WORLD

## BUSINESS

**THEY  
GOT  
GAMES**

### Net Set Sports has no rival in Olympic tourism

**Y COLIN CAMPBELL**—Jet Set Sports, a New Jersey-based travel company, has been staying around Vancouver recently, meeting with local business groups, looking for an area that might make the cut for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games venue. It's hoping to be in Vancouver what it did in Torino, off-

NetSet, owned by Soud Thiradareux, a coach of the former Yugoslavia now living in the U.S., has become an Olympic Games hangout, with and without rights to sell Oly-



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Canadian environmental pedagogues in about a dozen universities, including Canada. It secures key partnerships with national Olympic committees and the host country's organizing committee, through which most of the promotional events and hotel rooms are booked in Canada, and who bookify tickets or booked in Canada, thus their lively were through either the host Sports (corporate claims) or College (the arm of the company that deals with students). With 32 hotel properties (including 16 in-house and outside) and 500 employees in its parent Germany, the company supercharges 400,000 clients through Times.

The Olympic Games have become a high travel destination, where the demand for every hotel, restaurant and bus ticket far outstrips the supply. While individual tickets to some events rival those of the Super Bowl, the real money is in packaged tours here direct to the airport, and reservations at the best restaurants, and have to

ers and makes to select owners. A typical five-day package can cost \$10,000. "And it can go up from there," said Mark Lewis, Jet Set's president. At past games, Jet Set has gone to as far as rent out luxury cruise ships (Adlon) or build its own temporary hotel (Alibabara).

When Dunderberg started Jet Set, he was a small town operator at the 1984 Saratoga Springs Olympics (where he convinced Yugoslav military officials to host). As a new veteran in his hometown, he has recently honed the company's expertise at every Olympics since. "Our only business at a company is the Olympics," said Lewis. "If you're not experienced in what you're doing, you can quit right yourself in a real situation." That was the reality Dunderberg faced when he was asked to compete with Jet Set, which provided the only competitive bid the Canadian Olympic Committee received for Vancouver. "Unfortunately in Canada right now there aren't a lot of companies that have taken a interest because of the risks associated with taking on so many of the details," said Joe Ragnaghi, the COC's chief operating officer.

Norair Jet Set nor the CIOC would disclose the value of their partnership, but according to the *Wall Street Journal*, the company is estimated to have paid US\$20 million for exclusive rights to market tickets and tours in it.

U.S. for an Olympic Games from Thailand to London 2012. On top of these national agreements, securing rights with the host city is cost as much as \$100 million. Such a move became an issue in the scandal-plagued Salt Lake City Games, when Donald Trump testified in U.S. court that in 1994 and 1995 he handed over US\$111,800 in cash-stuffed envelopes to two U.S. Olympic organizers. He was granted immunity in exchange for his testimony against the two, who were accused of bribing 10 members (the charges were dismissed).

In Canada, Jet Set has had a close relationship with the CDC since Athens. In Toronto, which is very close to the CDC, is located in former CDC marketing director Michael Peterson. Jet Set is now in talks with the Vancouver Organizing Committee to secure an agreement for the 2010 Games and will no doubt be looking to snatch up the best hotels, tickets, and most profitable venues for rent—all you believe the flame is now lit. ■





# Moms we hate

You know the type. The ones who make us all feel incompetent.

**BY KATE STALLON** • Parents of school-aged children know all about dandy moms, perky backpackers, and name-dropping drinkers—all those are just the other parents. One mom to mother, a successful professional in her 40s, still cringes about her mom with a "grade of one," another woman at her son's old primary school. The leader was "the head of the parent" association, one of those awful frantically self-important frosted blond moms with a giant SUV. "I'd volunteer to help out and she'd treat me like her frumpy servant." Her side-lucks were "just poisonous, they'd give you a withering look and say, 'My husband was so rich and such expensive private school and I hope that when Junior will go. Who about you?'" After realizing she would never fit in, she didn't return—the woman moved her son to another school with a more low-key reputation. But now she wonders: how can we come from friends? Maybe if she left her car and got to know some mothers, she could single a downer or playmate for him?

Widowed to what American author Rosealind Wiseman calls "Perfect Parents World,"

is a land of personal judgments, where, too frequently, "parents' actions are dictated by anxiety, insecurity, fear—largely brought on by parents pressuring each other to be perfect or assuming that someone is scolding them at the thought of parents." With expectations unreasonably high, most parents feel they're not quite measure up—and this is what Wiseman dubs "Gossip Mom," naming school connections with all you feel, or "Dad-bling Mom Dads," the ones who bluster about how much their kids get suspended for drinking at the dance. Of course, she can cross make those lower down to the food chain, like "Inevitable Dad," that meddling geek who looks like he's never played hockey or even watched an "800s-on-Panda-Mom," who is just really inappropriate.

If all sounds so, well, high school, that's because it is. Wiseman and all-around classmate Elizabeth Rapoport write in *Queen Bees & Wannabes*, a guide to helping parents cope not just with their own children but the teachers, coaches and other parents "who can make-or break-your child's fu-

ture." Parenting is apparently severely grade all over again, with little bit of opportunity to relieve adolescent insecurities—something Wiseman, 36, knows a lot about.

As the founder of Rapoport, a Washington-based non-profit that focuses on helping kids prevent violence, she has spent most of her professional life counseling teens and demystifying their customs for parents—most notably in the 2002 best-seller *Queen Bees & Wannabes*, which provided a crash course in some of the less pleasant aspects of "Girl World," where "friends" shudder or shirk when someone is making and wearing the wrong jeans can result in social death.

After the book inspired a media frenzy and became the basis of the hit movie *Mean Girls*, Wiseman was suddenly Oprah's favorite girl guru, a role she found dangerously "intoxicating." "I started getting really uncomfortable as my girls, while going on, where I'm saying and why am I doing that?" she remembers. "And I just got so the place of thinking, 'This is all very exciting, but I have to be focused on what my work is.' At the

same, it was really helping girls—and boys—to speak their truth, and help them understand how the culture is forming and pushing them to make decisions to treat others and themselves in a dignifying way."

And when she began to notice, as she took her message to schools, was "more being imposed like the women girls in seventh grade." Yet, unlike their kids, they "had so much of humor about themselves," she says. "There's a lot of incentive for parents to avoid self-satisfaction because it's so fraught with the potential for blame and guilt and feeling you're doing the wrong thing. I'm trying to get them to laugh at themselves a lot, to reflect on their own behavior without becoming self-righteous."

The result is a highly practical parenting

## Parenting is high school all over again, with endless chances to relieve teen insecurities

book peppered with anecdotes like "Wannabe Mom," who moonwalks and over-enters her kids, while "Big Dad" sucks up to his kids' friends and lets them party in the basement. "Sound the Alarm Mom" is always whinging about something, a new policy, a new teacher, a "disaster" now or never. From parent "Kingpin Dad" means to show his kids' friends and let them party in the basement. "Sound the Alarm Mom" is always whinging about something, a new policy, a new teacher, a "disaster" now or never. From parent "Kingpin Dad" means to show his kids' friends and let them party in the basement. "Sound the Alarm Mom" is always whinging about something, a new policy, a new teacher, a "disaster" now or never. From parent "Kingpin Dad" means to show his kids' friends and let them party in the basement.

But *Queen Bees & Wannabes* and Rapoport Dads isn't just a social anthropology. The book is a handbook, too, having kids for teenagers is a good thing, giving them a safe space to be a kid, and dad should stop passing the phone to mom when someone calls to do something about the kids. And, most important, in many situations kids should not be left to work conflicts out by themselves; they need parents coaching them on handling confrontations, and sometimes doing the very forcing themselves.

Then, she took her school scripts, a preface for dad. Wiseman stubbornly insists that men should read this book, too, but she focused on the message, then later wrote how to say to past daughter's co-ed that you're a woman when she's invited to the birthday party. What to say to the neighbor when you do

over your son has been over their making got—or when you find out the neighbor's kid has been at your place, leaving you.

So Wiseman has two more, five and three—what kind of mom is she? She hasn't into laughter. "I aspire to be the 'All-Boy Mom'—from get female, doesn't think out when the ball goes through the pants window—'How was my respect for? Can't say my respect for the men who have made the world and are not constantly into trouble. But certainly, I have my Queen Bees moments.'"

Yes, she was a Queen Bee in high school. Yet she also had an oblique boyfriend she didn't know how to leave, and that has in some respects shaped her life. At university, she took women's studies courses and learned mental arts, after graduating with a degree in political science, she couldn't find a job, and turned to teaching self-defense classes to teenage girls. She came to believe that, among

other things, girls' vulnerability to girls left them far more vulnerable to teasing and saying in relationships with abusive guys. "I began to realize I could help empower them in the way I'd learned to empower myself."

Today, so empowered that her word is viewed as gospel in some circles, Wiseman acknowledges, "It becomes really easy to think your opinion counts more than anyone else's." But the fight still happens. "I know that confidence and thinking you live above the law can be so incredibly destructive to you and the people around you. That's what I grew up with, here in Washington." So she sends her boys to public school, the contrast has a personal meaning of her speaking to a kingpin, where the "Wannabe" out of a leadership position so that when get a name, the linked Elizabeth Rapoport, the editor of *Two previous books*, moves on to the cover of the one because "I think she deserves."

And, she says, she is considering running for political office. Her husband, columnist Kimmelman, is, opposed, but she hasn't given up on the idea. In the meantime, Wiseman Wiseman controls herself by "looking at my work as political thing. I really love understanding how people make the decisions they make, especially in groups." And even when those groups include mean girls, all grown up and running the PTA.

# LOST IN PARADISE

Mexico's Barcelo Maya Beach Resort is the scene for murder

**BY NICHOLAS KOHLER** • A little more than a week after Serge Etinger and Crystal Chang were married in a civil ceremony ceremony on a Mexican beach, The mile Bay police began calling members of their wedding party, one by one, into a small room in the resort containing a couple of chairs, a desk, two large video cameras, and two men armed video cameras. The two women, required by Mexican authorities through Interpol, were to make all of the 50 Thursday night residents who had returned home on a direct flight from Cancun on the afternoon of Feb. 10.

Tobias focused in particular on the question of what time members of the wedding party came across a set of body cameras leading from room 14 in the Barcelo Maya Beach Resort, near coastal Playa del Carmen on the Mayan Peninsula. It was there that Detective and Nancy Gonzalez of Woodbridge, Ont., also



LINKED: Etinger (left) and Kim back at home

at the resort for a wedding, at this time their daughter's, had their photos were the only early morning hours of the day Etinger and Chang's photos were in the house. May Chang, the bride's sister, first saw the couple at 7:30 a.m. "They were half-faced—half the face," she says, and had apparently been made by someone wearing shoes.

Another guest, a Toronto lawyer attached with the party, spotted the bride only 5 a.m., hours before relatives found the abandoned couple. Sometime around 7 a.m., just after the grisly discovery, a bridesmaid staying in a newlydivorced opposite stepped into the hall to see the bride's door open and a woman's



## ROMANIA: SOCCER TEAM NEEDED A WISHER

Soccer player Markus Gloor has quit after last night's win on Romania's newly formed Rapid Roma team because he couldn't take about soccer coaches. Another Soccer, UT Alau, ended Gloor in exchange for 25 kids of soccer. At the time a Rapid soccer team, "We are confident it will be worth it." But coffee coffee "we hope to see," Gloor said, deciding to take a job in a firm in Spain. Rapid Roma has dismissed their manager back.





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INFORMATION SUPPLEMENT

Kyle Shewfelt – Olympic  
and Commonwealth  
Games Gold Medalist,  
Gymnastics

THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES

## A Friendly Competition

**C**helle Carter (28), who brought home two gold medals in synchronized swimming from the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Manchester, England, definitely remembers the friendly atmosphere when she was there competing. "Walking back from the centre, everything started to rain. It got from an African queen who was her umbrella, and as she walked me to where I was staying in the Midlands Village, we talked about the games, each other's country."

"It just doesn't seem like something that would normally happen at a very intense athletic competition." But that's exactly what the Commonwealth Games is all about. From their inception in Hamilton, Ont., in 1930, this unique competition has been known as "The Friendly Games." One reason is the common language – athletes and officials all

speak English. Another reason is that it's a friendly, not a profit-making, nation's show.

The Commonwealth is a collection of reshaped and developing nations that were all once part of the British Empire in the 19th century and that continued to exist after they acquired their independence. Today, the voluntary association of 71 independent sovereign states – first which to join and then the British, through the 1930s an overseas federation every four years for a multi-sport competition. The first took place in Melbourne, Australia, the 18th edition brings together a record 4,500 athletes to compete in 16 sports and 13 disciplines.

"It's funny, there is great pride in the fact that the Games were created in Canada and have become one of the largest multi-sport sporting events in a world-wide," says Claude Bernick, president of Commonwealth Games Association of Canada.



## INFORMATION SUPPLEMENT

The Games are ultimately about the athletes. "Historically, the Commonwealth Games, based as they are on a common culture and language, have endowed the competitors with a vibrant sense of community grounded in fair play and respect, regardless of nationality, ethnicity, and religious and social backgrounds," says Bruce Robertson, vice-president of the Commonwealth Games Federation and winner of six Commonwealth Games medals in 1974.

Some of the approximately 250 Canadian athletes competing in Melbourne will face international competition and media coverage for the first time. Participating in the Games is part of the continuum of development that teaches athletes how to win, says Molly Kilgusbeck, a gold medalist in relay in 1982 and 1986. Those that achieve success at the Commonwealth Games often go on to dominate in their sports at the Olympics – and track, swimming and boxing are great examples.

For some nations, the Games are the only field on which they can compete. For example, the Falkland Islands, Scotland, Wales, Jersey and Guernsey compete under the U.K. banner at the Olympics, but separately at the Commonwealth Games. These Games also host sports not represented at the Olympics, including lawn bowling, netball and rugby 7s.

In a larger sense, the Games have spearheaded important innovations in sports, with Canada often playing a leading role. Bruce Kidd, dean of the faculty of physical education and health at the University of Toronto and a 1962 Commonwealth Games gold medalist, explains that early on, the newly created Commonwealth Games Federation had to deal with the larger political challenges of the diverse and changing British Empire. "It became the first international multi-games to bar apartheid South Africa in 1962 and became one of the leaders of the anti-apartheid movement worldwide."

More recently Canada championed gender equity by "modelling and pushing it," says Judy Kent, Canada's first female chief de mission (a 1990-0 and chair of the Commonwealth Games Federation's women's sport committee (1996-2002)). "Today, women's participation in the sports program and on the national team is equitable."

Another important innovation of the Commonwealth Games is the title Athlete with a Disability category, which was introduced in 1994 and is now a full-medal sport.

One of the current goals of Commonwealth Games Canada is to work with other organizations to promote the benefits of sport and physical activity for everyone in Canada, says Thomas Jones, the organization's CEO.

The message of togetherness has always thrived with the athletes. Like Dine, Kidd remembers the tremendous sense of community at the Athletes Village when he competed more than 40 years ago. "It brought home to me how much athletes around the world are the same, sharing the same hopes, loves and fears that made me a lifetime believer in the shared language of sport." □

1st left

Top, Andrew Brown – Swimming/Scott Grant, courtesy of SNC

Middle, Arvin Henry – Athletics/Athletics Canada

Bottom, Chantal Potezarc – Athletics/Dan Galbraith, Concepts to Applause

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MEET  
THE ATHLETES

# Alexandra Orlando



As a little girl, Alexandra Orlando loved her ballet classes, but she was such a bundle of energy that the teacher suggested that she try gymnastics as well. The two activities proved to be a perfect mix for the muscular Orlando and, by age 7, she was competing in rhythmic gymnastics.

Today at 19, Toronto-born Orlando is a three-time national champion and is the top 20 in the world. At the Commonwealth Games, Orlando will compete in the four gymnastics disciplines (rope, ball, clubs and ribbon) and vie for the overall rhythmic gymnastics medal.

"I've always wanted to go to the Commonwealth Games," she says, "and I am so excited about going now. Personally, I really want to win gold. In fact, five gold medals are so possible for me."

"You have to feel good about yourself to be able to compete at your best. I'm experienced and I know what I have to do."

Interestingly, she almost quit after not making it to the 2004 Olympics by one spot. "But I can't function without this

sport in my life, and I definitely feel that I haven't yet reached my peak competitively."

Orlando makes rhythmic gymnastics – a combination of athletics, ballet, dance and gymnastics – all rolled into one – look easy. But the sport is demanding on the body. Each routine is about one and a half minutes long and the music is important. She and her Bulgarian coach, Mimi Marleva, choose the music together, and Orlando uses a different type of music for each of her routines.

In her first year at University of

Toronto, Orlando is studying Business Administration and has a challenging schedule. She trains six days a week for four hours a day. Twice a week, she focuses on ballet as well as her routines and every other day she practices just her routines.

Her parents are from New York and her grandparents are from Italy, but her heart is rooted in Canada. "I am the most Canadian person you'll ever meet," she says. "I love this country. I was offered the opportunity to compete for the U.S. two years ago, but I just couldn't. I'm very loyal to Canada." □



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BEHIND THE SCENES

# United by the Moment

*When the ceremonial flag is raised in the Melbourne Cricket Ground, several thousand performers, volunteers and athletes on the field representing 71 nations (including the Canadian team decked out in red and white), will raise their own flags and voices to music, lights galore and likely a sell-out crowd of 800,000 sports-crazy fans in the stands.*

The VIII Commonwealth Games will be the largest sporting event ever staged in Melbourne, with a record 4,500 athletes, 1,500 team officials, 1,100 technical officials and a reported 15,000 volunteers. The city will be blanketed in a dizzying array of sports competitions and cultural activities all celebrating the Games and bringing together athletes, families and friends from Commonwealth nations to be "United by the Moment" — which is the theme of the Melbourne Games, running March 15 to 26, 2006.

"There's absolutely no doubt in my mind that the Commonwealth Games will be the world's best," says Len Appleby, the Canadian team attaché who has lived in Australia for 30 years. "It's not just people coming together in competition, but it's the entire state and province being united by the event in celebration," says Appleby, who is also chief executive for Tourism Victoria and Canada's Honorary Consul based in Melbourne.

"It is going to be a brilliant set of games," says George Hellas, president and CEO of the Hudson's Bay Co. (HBC) and president of the Commonwealth Games Foundation of Canada (CGFC). "It will raise the level of the Games overall, not by just one notch, but by several."

Expenditure on these games is a nudge over one billion Australian dollars (approximately C\$550 million), says Appleby, with the Victorian state government contributing about A\$700 million, the federal government contributing A\$100 million and a sponsorship program, ticket sales, product

licensing and broadcast rights (media coverage is scheduled in all 71 nations) making up the rest.

Melbourne, with a population of 3.5 million people, is a city known for its arts and culture, parks and gardens, shopping, food and wine, and its beautiful locale (situated on a bay and the Yarra River runs through the city).

Ticket sales have been great, and the sports venues themselves are "incredible," reports Bruce Robertson, and just 15 minutes from the central business district. The Melbourne Cricket Ground (renamed the "MCG" or "G" in Melbourne) is one of the world's largest and most outstanding outdoor sporting grounds, with over 100 years of tradition and history and a recently completed \$400 million facility. It hosts both opening and closing ceremonies, as well as track and field events. Adjacent is the Rod Laver Arena, a tennis centre, and the Velodrome, both with retractable roofs. Also nearby: the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Sports Centre and the Athletics Village, which was built especially for the Games to house 6,000 athletes and team officials.

More than 2,500 performing artists from Australia and other Commonwealth nations will provide the largest live cultural festival ever held in the country with music, dance, circus acts, street theatre and visual arts. Every nation will provide a look at its music, traditions and culture — Canada will be featured at the Melbourne Museum where a West Coast aboriginal will be carving a totem.

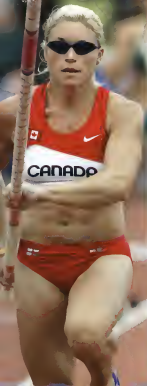


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*Her message is read aloud and the flag is raised to signal the beginning of the Games.*

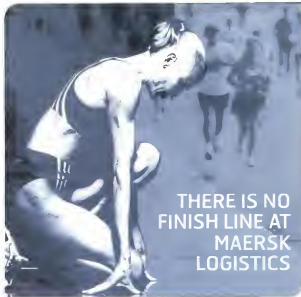
#### SPORTS TO WATCH IN MELBOURNE

Aquatics (diving, swimming, synchronized swimming), athletics (track & field, marathons, walks), badminton, basketball (six first time at the Commonwealth Games), boxing, cycling (track, road, mountain bikes), gymnastics (artistic, rhythmic), hockey, lawn bowls, netball, rugby 7s, shooting, clay target, full bore, pistol/shall bore), squash, table tennis, taekwondo, weightlifting, swimming, athletics, table tennis and weightlifting have events for Para Athletes with a Disability.

#### THE 2014 GAMES

With New Delhi, India, now preparing to host the 2010 Commonwealth Games, the race to host the 2014 Games has started with Halifax in the running against Glasgow, Scotland, and Abuja, Nigeria. "The goal is to bring the Games home to Canada," says Thomas Jones, CEO of Commonwealth Games Canada. By 2014, it will have been 20 years since the last Games were last held in Canada (1994 in Victoria). "The time is right," says Jones, "and hosting the Games would allow the sports community and country to reconsider the important role of sport and help us build more sports infrastructure." □

Dana Ellis — Athletics/AC/Claire Anderson



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MEET  
THE ATHLETES

# Alexandre Despatie



**W**here do you go next when you start at the top?

Champion diver Alexandre Despatie is the right athlete to ask. At the 1998 Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, at age 13, he became the youngest gold medal winner in the history of the games in 10 metre diving.

His "totally unexpected" achievement was from the heart of the entire country – and ignited a fire in his own heart that has led him to medal wins at every international competition in which he has participated. Most recently, the Quebec native won gold in the 1-metre and 3-metre at the 2005 World Championships in Montreal. At the 2003 World Aquatic Championships in Barcelona, he was gold on the 10 metre tower. With silver from the Olympics, and two golds and a bronze from the 2003 Manchester Commonwealth Games, he's heading to Melbourne focused and with a positive attitude and

with the hope that results will follow.

"My main strategy is to focus on what I have to do in order to dive well," says Despatie. "The results will come in the end."

Despatie, 20, is a full-time athlete, and now lives at home in Laval, Que. He usually trains six days a week. Part of his training regimen is a focused stretch program that incorporates some ballet. He works on his strength and also does a lot of warm-up exercises to be sure that when he dives, his body is ready for the impact. He's also been taking even

care of his back after an injury last season. But with regular treatments, he's back in shape now.

Despatie has won enough times to know that winning is not enough for him now: perfection is what he's aiming for.

"It takes a lot of factors to be a good diver. I've been diving for 15 years... Every day I go to the pool and try to get better. No matter what I do or what it takes, I know there's always a little more I can or could have done in each event, on each dive – and that is what keeps me motivated." □

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MEET  
THE ATHLETES

# Ryan Bester & Keith Roney



Photo: Dan Lohrman/Canadian Press/CP

**R**yan Bester, 21, and Keith Roney, 37, are two hopefuls on the Canadian men's lawn bowls team. Roney will be leading, in part with Michel Leduc and Bester will play singles.

Lawn bowling is similar to curling, only the sport is played on grass. "It's an exciting and challenging sport," says Bester. "Every time you play, something different happens – you are strategizing all the time." And you have to be in good shape, he adds. "You can be playing for 12 or 13 hours a day – and that's tough on your body and mind."

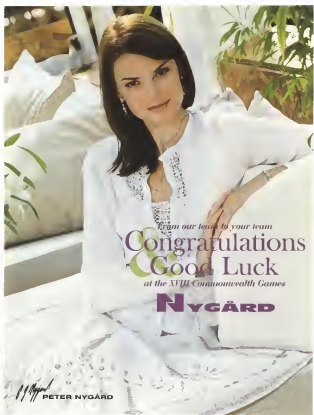
It was only natural for Bester to take up the sport – he was born into a family of lawn bowlers in the small Ontario town of Hanover. (He and his father won the last two Canadian pairs championships.) After graduating in business accounting from Fanshawe College in London, Ont., Bester went to Australia where he is currently competing in the 2006 Direct Portfolio Premier League Competition. The youngest person to win a world championship when he was men's partner at the World Bowls in 2004, Bester recently won the gold medal for

men's singles at the Asia Pacific Championships, which were held in Melbourne last November.

In Roney's case, when his dad passed away (almost 30 years ago), he started diving his mother to her weekly lawn bowls games – and playing. In 1987, he won the Canadian championship and says it's still a thrill to be a part of the Canadian contingent. He is leading to Melbourne with his wife Jean, who is on the women's lawn bowls team.

Roney now lives in Regina, Sask., and is curator of life sciences at the Royal Saskatchewan Museum. But after 27 years competing, Roney says his lawn bowls career is coming to an end. He only wishes there were better training facilities in Canada. It's an outdoor game, making it difficult to play – and precise – during the winter.

Despite the hurdles, Canada is ranked tenth or eleventh in the world, and the team has high hopes for the Commonwealth Games. Says Roney: "We know what it takes to win and we know we have ability, skill and confidence." □

From our team to your team

## Congratulations Good Luck

at the XVII Commonwealth Games

# NYGÅRD

*Peter Nygård*  
**PETER NYGÅRD**

MEET  
THE ATHLETESMarie-Pier  
Boudreau-  
Gagnon

Don't let the makeup and gelled hair fool you – Marie-Pier Boudreau-Gagnon is every inch an athlete and then some.

Synchro, originally known as water ballet, is one tough sport. Swimmers are pulled by music as they perform contortions in the water, often upside down and underwater. Judged on precision and artistic expression, the sport requires strength, endurance, flexibility, grace, artistry and exceptional breath control. The technical program in solo lasts for about two minutes plus or minus 15 seconds, while the free solo program lasts about three minutes. The technical program in duet lasts two minutes and 20 seconds while the free duet is three minutes and 30 seconds.

Boudreau-Gagnon was born 22 years ago in Rivière du Loup, a small town five hours from Montreal. She has trained in synchro since she was just seven years old, and it has been quite a journey. As often happens, watching the sport was her motivation. While she was taking ballet as a little girl, Boudreau-Gagnon switched to synchro swimming after seeing Sylvie Fréchette compete at



the Olympics on television.

She joined a small synchro swimming club, where she learned all of the basics and started competing. When she was 13, she moved to Quebec City and lived



with an aunt in order to train at a more club-level club. The following year she moved yet again, to Montreal and another club. Her commitment and hard work paid off when she made the

national team at age 15 in 1998.

Today, Boudreau-Gagnon is a full time athlete living in Montreal with plans to go to university one day. Her days start at 7 a.m. in the pool, where she perfects and practices routines. In the afternoon, she heads to the gym where she does flexibility exercises, weight training and cardio.

Boudreau-Gagnon was an alternate for the Olympic team in 2004, and went to both the qualifiers and training camp with the team. In 2005, she was the soloist in the FINA Aquatic World Championships in Montreal.

On the next step of her journey, the upcoming Commonwealth Games, she will compete both in solo and duet with partner Isabelle Rungling, also from Montreal. Synchro □



## Coaches &amp; Volunteers

## AS MUCH A PART OF THE GAMES AS THE ATHLETES THEY SUPPORT

Brian Hickey, 27, is taking a month off from his job as departmental liaison with Social Development Canada in Ottawa to volunteer at the Commonwealth Games in Australia. Hickey, who in his spare time plays rugby and squash and is Editor-in-Chief at TREND Magazine, is on the communications team that will be in Melbourne. "I'm one of the rookies heading down and I've embraced the opportunity to go."

Volunteers work before, during and after the games, overseeing living conditions, food, transportation, uniforms, media relations and security arrangements. "When we get to the Games, we want to

make sure that athletes only have to think about competing and doing the best they can," says Dufresne, who is also an orthopedic surgeon in Kamloops, B.C.

Team Canada is composed of athletes, coaches, team managers and other support staff from each sport – as well as the Mission Staff of approximately 30 medical, communications and operations team members and seven senior management members. With about 260 athletes scheduled to compete, the total team size is about 350.

While travel expenses, food and accommodations are covered, there's no question volunteering demands time

away from family and friends. "It is a big commitment," says Bruce Robertson, who chaired two Commonwealth Games Federation conferences.

"We get great pleasure in helping Canada and some of its athletes continue to excel at the world level," says Claude Bennett, president of Commonwealth Games Association of Canada. "Volunteers are not looking for anyone to shake their hands. Payback happens in other ways."

Molly Killingbeck, a gold medalist and a volunteer coach says, "My whole life has evolved because of my involvement in sports. I have a commitment and obligation to give something back."

Best of luck to Team Canada  
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## Outfitting our Athletes

A CANADIAN LOOK

As Canada's athletes arrive in Melbourne, each one will receive a 40-piece uniform package courtesy of HBC. The line took two years to develop, and the HBC team believes it's a winner. "We want to be proud of our athletes when they represent Canada on the world stage," says Diane Gordon, director of HBC Heritage and Community Investment. "It's important for them to look good and to be able to identify themselves as the Canadian team."

This is the third set of Commonwealth Games for which HBC is providing Team

Canada uniforms. Coaches, mascot staff and select sponsors will receive pieces of the uniform package as well.

The line is based on athlete feedback, which put a priority on comfort and function, as well as current fashion trends. Designer Amanda McPine says the result is a sharp all-Canadian line that uses polyester performance fabric and poly blends with high-performance features, including built-in moisture management and anti-microbial materials to keep them fresh. The colour scheme is red, white and black

with touches of grey. "Melbourne" and "Canada" appear on many pieces, while "HBC" and "Commonwealth" logos are part of the design as well.

The uniform package includes podium wear, a team reception uniform, casual wear and a ceremony uniform that will be unveiled just before the Games begin. The package also includes luggage, headwear and such extras as a laundry bag, water bottle, wrist bands and footwax.

McPine can't wait to see the entire team walking into the stadium wearing the uniform package. "I know it's going to be overwhelming." □

## SUPPORTING OUR ATHLETES

The HBC Foundation helps raise funds to support Canadian athletes who compete on the world stage at the Commonwealth Games, as well as at the Olympic and Paralympic Games. As a leading supporter of Canadian amateur athletes, the HBC Foundation is dedicated to helping our athletes be their best when they compete on the world stage. While Commonwealth-brand athletic wear is not currently available, a clothing line inspired by Olympic athletes' uniforms is available in HBC stores across Canada. Olympic-themed boutiques opened in February 2006 in HBC stores: the Bay Zellers and Home Outfitters.

Commonwealth Games athlete Danel Gah – Wrestling, and Denise Julien – Badminton and HBC President and CEO George Heller (centre).



There's good reason that Team Canada asked George Heller to join the athletes' march into the Opening Ceremony of the games four years ago in Manchester. Heller is president and CEO of the Hudson's Bay Co. (HBC) and president of the Commonwealth Games Foundation of Canada (CGFC). His commitment to athletes helped motivate HBC to sponsor Team Canada in 1996, and it's one of the driving forces behind the continuing partnership.

Says Heller: "I like to think that my company and all 70,000 employees

## The Corporate Commitment

A CONTINUING PARTNERSHIP

share the same values that are inherent in amateur athletics."

The latest HBC initiative is a program to raise \$20 million over the next seven years in support of amateur athletes who participate in Commonwealth Games, the Paralympics and the Olympics, as well as National Training Centres for athletes.

HBC's campaign will raise funds through annual golf tournaments and a July 1 HBC Run for Canada as well as in-store promotions at the Bay, Zellers and Home Outfitters, where consumers can purchase specially designed HBC

and send special postcards with handwritten notes of support to athletes who are competing, or donate their HBC rewards points.

Other members of corporate Canada have also shown their support behind the Games. "The Commonwealth Games are an important international competitive environment," says Brian Segal, president and CEO of gold sponsor Rogers Publishing, "and we're delighted to be a supporter of the Canadian team."

Mattress manufacturer Sealy Canada, another gold sponsor, donates a portion

of sales of two mattress lines (one is appropriately called the Commonwealth Collection) sold in the Bay stores.

And in a joint promotion with Zellers stores last year, silver sponsor Webber Natural invited consumers to meet amateur athletes and donated a portion of sales of its Truly brand supplements.

"When I see the athletes, they're like heaven to me," says Heller, who will never forget his special march with athletes. "I still tear up when I think about it. I was grinning ear to ear, and it was absolutely amazing." □

# MEET THE ATHLETES

## Michael Brown



four years old. He joined the Perth Stingrays competitive swim club at age seven. The beststroke: "let my body" he says, and by the time he was 13, he'd made the Junior National Team.

Following his exciting win at the Commonwealth Games, Brown accepted a full scholarship to the University of Minnesota. He liked the school, team and coaches, but something was missing. Determined to find a better fit for himself, he gave up the scholarship and moved to "smaller" Calgary, which unexpectedly felt like home. Since May 2004, he has been studying

business part time and working with coach Jan Bohman.

Brown has had his ups and downs keeping motivated around a busy training and studying schedule. But with the Commonwealth Games around the corner, Brown says, "I know I have an awesome job, and I get to represent my country and travel around the world... I'm really excited about the upcoming Games."

His distant goal: "I figure the Olympics in 2008 will be my time to shine. I'll be 24 by then and that's when I want to be on that podium." □

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## MEET THE ATHLETES

# Chantal Petitclerc



**C**hantal Petitclerc, 35, is one of Canada's greatest athletes. She will forever be identified as the first athlete in the history of sports for the disabled to register a result for her country's team. Petitclerc won a gold medal in the 500-metre race at the Commonwealth Games in Manchester in 2003. It was the first time a wheelchair event was fully integrated into the program of a major international competition.

Starting with Barcelona in 1992, Petitclerc has won 16 Paralympics medals. Most recently, she won five wheelchair gold medals in the 2004 Athens Paralympics, as well as gold in the demonstration 500-metre event – and broke four world records and six Paralympics records.

She has received many awards, too, her most cherished is the international Laureus World Sportsman of the Year with a Disability Award, which she received in 2003.

Petitclerc has been unable to walk since a barn door fell on her legs when she was 13. She started swimming, then

took up wheelchair racing, which relies on upper-body strength in the arms, shoulders, back and trunk muscles. Her description of the sport is captivating: "We race on the track like runners, think like cyclists and train like kayakers."

It is obviously not just medal wins that drive the passionate Petitclerc: "It's inspiring and challenging to think, 'Okay, now there's a new glove and maybe it can make me two seconds faster.' And I've got to do it. I know it is possible to break the world record, and that's what keeps me motivated and interested."

Outside of athletics, Petitclerc is a sought-after motivational speaker and local TV personality. "Being a role model is an unplanned side effect of leading the life that I want," says Petitclerc, who shares a life with her boyfriend in downtown Montreal. "Sometimes I've met people who just had an accident and they are just happy to see that it's possible to have a life after an accident. And not just a life, but a good one." □



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## INFORMATION SUPPLEMENT



(above) Field Hockey athlete Scott Sandison (16) in action at the Manchester 2002 Commonwealth Games and (right) teaching in Africa

### BEHIND THE SCENES

## More Than a Games Experience



Canadian field hockey player Scott Sandison is coming for the 2006 Commonwealth Games, but after eight months in Africa he also has another mission in life: to help stop the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Sandison, 27, worked in Malawi, Botswana and South Africa as a sport leader for Commonwealth Games Canada's International Development through Sport (IDS) unit (commonwealthgames.ca).

"Before, I was sure I'd end up in the business world, but now I'm pretty sure I want to do some sort of international development," says Sandison, who holds a degree in economics from the University of Western Ontario.

Ottawa-based IDS works alongside local programs in Africa and the Caribbean to develop sports, physical activity and education programs to help people living in disadvantaged situations, including youth at risk, women and girls, and people with a disability. Since 1993, its sport leaders have completed 47 assignments in 20 countries, and the program is considered a model of successful development through sport. Sandison's assignment focused on increasing HIV/AIDS

awareness through the Kicking AIDS Out program, which uses sports and physical games as the vehicle for teaching about prevention. A game he created vividly illustrates HIV's effect on the immune system, with one person representing the body's others surrounding it, representing the immune system, and others trying to reach the body through the immune system in the form of opportunistic infections such as colds, flu, tuberculosis or pneumonia.

"I feel that HIV/AIDS is a world issue that no one can hide from," Sandison said. "It's not getting any better."

According to the World Health Organization, last year three million people in sub-Saharan Africa became infected, comprising 64% of all new infections worldwide. South Africa's infection rate among those aged 15 to 49 is estimated at over 20%.

Now back home in Mississauga, Ont., Sandison is focusing on field hockey while staying involved in Kicking AIDS Out activities. "I've become more of an activist around the issue and definitely like to talk to people and try to get them thinking about it," he says. "It's tied in to who I am now." □

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### EDUCATION



## SEEN NOT HEARD

### A book about Israeli and Palestinian children is under fire

**BY NOAH RICHLER** • "It was right the first time my house was demolished." You will not find a novelist anywhere who does not wish that she had come up with an opening sentence as powerful as this. Only this is not fiction, but the truth.

A trendy business, the truth is these days. As America finally gets over the wonderful idiosyncrasy of James Frey having de-

scribed its prize-winning purveyor of fantasy, Oprah Winfrey, Canada stands to be embarrassed in its upcoming prose. For truth is something they cannot tolerate. Ontario's top-ranked Dufferin School Board, with the auspicious support of the Canadian Jewish Congress, has removed Deborah Ellis's *Three Wishes*. Palestinian and Jewish Children Speak does consideration for the Ontario Literary Association's annual Silver Birch Award, the prize given to 10,000 students in grades four to six. Several other Ontario school boards are following suit, or making Ellis's book available only upon request.

"It was quite surprising," said Ellis, a soft-spoken woman who describes herself as a peace activist and human rights social worker. "It's a pity, because the Silver Birch is a wonderful program. I really get kids talking."

Ellis would like this to happen in Israel and Palestinian as well. "I'd really like to see signs for the kids to be with each other," she said. "The kids I met who knew their counterparts on the other side of the line had a sense that the others were kids like themselves. These who didn't were growing up in an atmosphere of

with greater fear and distrust. That makes sense. We fear what we don't know."

Reading through the 30 children's accounts also underscored the extraordinary ways even



DEBORAH ELLIS is "surprised" her book has been pulled from an award competition.

Sara Nam, a 12-year-old Palestinian girl confined to a wheelchair, "I'm not supposed to go out by myself because my mother thinks I won't be able to cross the road up if the soldiers come." And, Israeli and it, remember the case based on claims he used to take.

"We didn't fight because they were Palestinian and I am Israeli. We were just kids doing art."

Distant days. Now, the disconcerted girl says, "I understand the suicide bombers."

Ellis kept her self out of the book as much as possible. In introduction and chapter prefaces are, contrary to convention, pity and balanced. Selection is a form of editorial control, but Ellis insists that the children are representative. She left a few out "because

they were too angry and I didn't want the words that were coming out of their kids' mouths to be their legacy."

Her sensibility is subtle. Ellis, an internationally bestselling author of young adult fiction, is most renowned for *The Invention of Soliman*, the first of a trilogy of novels that tell the story of Hecuba, a young African girl who moves from a life of poverty to a life of luxury and helps her family get by during the start of the Taliban. This is in *Call It as You See It* is no Olympic sports winner whose generosity is exemplary. All the royalties of the first two novels, and half the royalties from a number of subsequent books, she has given away, generating some half a million dollars for charity even as the conclusion to live modestly in London, Ont., where she works part-time as a shelter for battered women. Her novel *I Am a Star*, to be published in September, concerns children exposed by the Serbian drug trade.

The Canadian Jewish Congress has argued that Ellis's book is tilted toward violence, and previous to the controversy in Canada, the book was pulled from the Ontario Jewish District School Board and the book.

Ellis's book is a study of the situation of children. Its unvarnished truths break the stomach, certainly, but suggesting there is yet another crime perpetrated by adults upon children who understand children.

The program are Ellis's book demonstrates about all the persistent loss of innocence forced upon children who come of age in the terrible war. Ellis's children began as young and accepting

many children are. Then they become angry and resent to their father-brother, like Min, an 18-year-old Israeli girl, they understand that they are adults and can take a measure of responsibility for themselves. "Persecuted does work," says Min. "It is good to let others know what you believe. They might believe the same way, and might get the courage to say so if they see you doing it."

"Maybe we could even make music with the Israeli and Arab," says Thana, Palestinian and 14.

Naah Richter's *A Literary Atlas of Canada* will be published by McClelland & Stewart in August.

BLAXXO-RO  
JUNGLE

**PINT-SIZED ART CRITIC'S UNWELCOME APPROACH**  
A 12-year-old boy on a school trip to the Detroit Institute of Arts thought he'd be a bit better and stick his newly chosen piece of Whitley's Extra Polar Ice gun on the wall. Unfortunately he chose a painting on the wall worth \$2.5 million. The art, he was frustrated to find, was a blank wall. The boy, is considered the most important contemporary painter in the world's collection. The gun left a stain, and the student left with a school suspension.



# 'I GO UP ON STAGE BY MYSELF WITH JUST A HARMONICA AND A GUITAR—LIKE BOB DYLAN—AND SING THE SONGS THAT I WRITE'—STEPHEN KAKFWI, FORMER N.W.T. LEADER AND BUDDING MUSIC STAR

## 1. WINNING THE TELEVISION WAR

One Canadian actor's fan base came out to see another actor's gals: In the new series, written by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright David Mamet (Glengarry Glen Ross), Barnes is part of a small-caps and special-factors unit led by Dominic Haybert (14) recently assassinated President Adams. But Mamet's buzzed-about series isn't just coarse sarcasm and conspiracy—the back story focuses on the two actors' off-screen lives, and the domestic maneuvering needed to protect their flakey husbands' secret identities. "The show's Mamet dialogue allows Barnes, who's been in Toronto, to spread his cinematic wings, and draw on his past work in slash comedy. His character, Victor Williams, is 'a capable

fighter and soldier—with an excellent sense of humor."

## 2. A BLESSING OR A CURSE?

Winning team **NATALIE REED** has talented advantages of her own: **Pamela Wilson** as a dissident. "Modeling agency wouldn't hire me because I have such a famous face," says Reed. "So it was inevitable that I'd become her look-alike." The 31-year-old, who is signed to a New York-based talent agency, rides in up to US\$1,000 by looking pretty at corporate events and taking around Wilson's famous photos (Wilson makes, by some estimates, US\$1,000,000 for her 100 gals). One night, Reed scolded the over-the-top model. "Her boyfriend was having an affair," says Reed. "I couldn't believe it." And she never stops people—especially Barnes—who mistake her for the real thing. "Why would I do that?" South End, who plans

to do this for a few more years before trying to break into acting—of a different sort.

## 3. PHIL KNIGHT IS ON LINE ONE

**JASON McELWAIN**'s high school basketball career lasted four seasons—but the 27-year-old, who suffers from autism, made every second count. After spending the year volunteering at the men's age of the varsity team at his Rochester, N.Y., school—he was responsible for handing out water and helping run drills during practice—McElwain was called into action at the end of the team's regular season finale last month. After checking in, he stepped up to the ball on his first attempt. The suddenly—much to the delight of the hometown crowd—McElwain caught fire and finished out the game scoring 10 points, including a three-point shot. At the buzzer, he was mobbed by fans and cheered into

their shoulders. More than 25 production companies—including Walt Disney Co. and Warner Bros.—are vying for the film rights to his story.

## 4. COHERTY GOES ON A JAG

His life is a mess of drugs and crime, but British singer **PETE DINKLAGE** has good taste in cars. Last November, the former-life-crime-thriller man and one-time boyfriend of actress Emma Stone, was pulled over in his Jaguar. "I'm sorry, sir, I'm a bit out of control," he said. But he didn't let his found cocaine and heroin. That was one in a long list of arrests, charges and convictions for the drug addict. In February, the 29-year-old was sentenced to 12 months of community service for a string of offenses, and warned that a trip to prison was likely if he broke the rules. This, last week, he allegedly stole a Jag. He was pulled over going the wrong

way on a one-way street and arrested on suspicion of auto theft and possession of drugs. He could face seven years in prison.

## 5. THE CODE BREAKER

The driving force behind the plagiarism case now engulfing *The Girl Code* author **Dan Brown** is a 57-year-old New Zealander and a true believer in an alternative Jesus. Anyway, for a quarter-century **MIHAILA KARKWI**, described by his own publisher as a writer of "mass-market books on ancient Christianity and conspiracy," has been championing ideas made famous by Brown's bestseller. Hence the plagiarism lawsuit, although the fact that Brown's novel is a pretty rough copy of Karkwi's, as of the week of the trial. "But the lyrics are clear," Karkwi's CD, which has sold 1,200 copies, is heavily based on the North. He loves his stuff as a collector and has

foundry on the cross, named Mary Magdalene and died in Provence, where the couple's kids would be long of France. Brown's newest book, out later this month—just in time for Easter and the first publicity provided by the trial—*The Jesus Project*. This time, the author promises, he's nailed down "the greatest secret in history," partly with the aid of "never-before-seen photographic evidence."

## 6. BOB DYLAN OF THE NORTH?

Former Northwest Territories leader **STEPHEN KAKFWI** has become a countryfolk singer. "There are little glances in the recording, but I wanted it like that because my style is pretty rough," says Karkwi, 35, of the week of the trial. "But the lyrics are clear." Karkwi's CD, which has sold 1,200 copies, is heavily based on the North. He loves his stuff as a collector and has

foundry on the cross, named Mary Magdalene and died in Provence, where the couple's kids would be long of France. Brown's newest book, out later this month—just in time for Easter and the first publicity provided by the trial—*The Jesus Project*. This time, the author promises, he's nailed down "the greatest secret in history," partly with the aid of "never-before-seen photographic evidence."

## 7. A BIT OF A ROYAL PAIN

**PRINCESS BEATRICE**, the eldest daughter of Prince Andrew and Sarah, Duchess of York, is making her mother do high-profile romantic engagements. The 17-year-old princess, who is fifth in line to the throne, has been linked to American **Paula Patton**—whose violent past, some royal watchers say, is more dangerous than being photographed having your hair sucked in a salon—before your mother's first. Caught with a girlfriend in a room with the head of a chicken in 2003, Patton, 24, avoided prison by pleading guilty to sexual assault and later, in a plea deal, he broke his arms and shoulders in a plea deal.

dent. The subsequent media frenzy stirred criticism to his parole violation—he is not allowed to travel for pleasure—sending Patton back to court, and the princess to the group columns.

## 8. FALLOUT FROM AOSCAM

The judicial system is catching up with the Grammy's star. The latest in advertising executive **JEAN SEBERG**, who pleaded guilty last week to five charges of defrauding the government of up to \$1.8 million in contract awarded to his firm, Georgetown. Seberg's attorney last week with tales of paper boys of cash changing hands at Seberg's firm. Frank—revealing that Seberg's firm had found no way back to Liberal party coffers. Seberg, who goes up to 30 years in jail, will be tried later on a charge of conspiracy to defraud the government. ■



## THE BACK PAGES

tv

Progressive  
polygasts  
P. 70

books

Swag Canadian  
Michael Adams  
P. 90

music

A hair rocker in  
the trend zone  
P. 92

taste

Cookie Canada  
in Toronto for  
P. 94

bazaar

The new 'social  
appliances'  
P. 95

help

Swam code for  
problem kids  
P. 96



# BEOWULF RIDES AGAIN

With swords  
and monsters  
all the rage, an  
ancient literary  
hero is now  
a hot showbiz  
property

BY BRIAN B. JOHNSON

It's revered as the first epic work of English literature, although it's written in what looks like a foreign language. And it has become the hero of English lit diets everywhere, a book famous for being avoided. In Astar Hall, as Deane Kostan's character leath through a course card game, Woody Allen says, "Just don't take any course where they make you read Beowulf."

Growing up in Vancouver, Scott Gammerson was made to read Beowulf in Grade 12. He couldn't finish it. He says he was more interested in cars and girls. In a 1980s 18-year-old's adolescent worldview, whose second language was English, he remembers dipping into the Anglo-Saxon verse and being amazed by how much of it he could decipher. "Old English," he explains, "is very close to Germanic, and with great difficulty, I could read it. That was uncanny."

Thirty-six years later, Gammerson, now a writer-director (Star Trek: Enterprise), has not only read Beowulf, he's revisited it. With Beowulf & Grendel, which he shot under license on his native island, he's created a revisionist spectacle that turns the story inside out. It portrays the monster Grendel as a sympathetic figure, given him a father, establishes the place where he lives, and offers dialogue with profanity. Parents will be offended. But Gammerson's movie tries to strip the sixth-century tale of a Scandinavian hero down to its pagan roots. And it's tapping a wave of Beowulf mania that has turned a medieval epic poem out of the hands of academics and pushed it into the mainstream. Once a genre: scholarly fiction, Beowulf—a prototype for the Hollywood western and the barbaric movie, and an inspiration for The Lord of the Rings—is now a hot showbiz property.

Robert Zemeckis, director of Back to the Future and Forrest Gump, is making a Beowulf blockbuster, a \$150-million fantasy epic employing a more advanced version of the performance-capture animation he used in The Polar Express. It's due out next year. (Also:

while, Julie Taymor (Broadway's The Lion King) is directing Grendel, a new opera that will open in Los Angeles in May. Sir Gammerson's epic, a \$175-million Canada/United Kingdom co-production, is the first adaptation of the poem, and the only live-action Beowulf ever filmed.)

Name it all on J.R.R. Tolkien. The author of The Lord of the Rings put the epic poem on the map with a landmark lecture in 1936, establishing it as a seminal work of literature, not just a curious artifact. Permeated by an enormous Anglo-Saxon story. Since then, Beowulf has fueled an academic cottage industry. The story has slipped to way into children's books, and Beowulf was reimagined as a Marvel Comics superhero in the '60s. In 1971, John Gardner's novel Grendel

**WITH VISTAS OF  
BREATHTAKING BEAUTY,  
A CANADIAN-MADE EPIC  
DOES FOR ICELAND WHAT  
THE LORD OF THE RINGS  
DID FOR NEW ZEALAND**

—the inspiration for Tolkien's opera—told the story from the monster's point of view, reimagined him as a lonely existentialist. And in 2000, Nobel Prize-winning poet Seamus Heaney crafted an exhilarating translation of Beowulf that became an unlikely bestseller. Then came Hollywood's Lord of the Rings trilogy. Sagas of swords and monsters were suddenly in vogue. And as a relatively untapped source of Norse/Germanic mythology, Beowulf has acquired showbiz cachet.

While the Icelandic movie will be certainly one poster generated, with scenes and images keyed to the movie's score, Gammerson boasts there's not a single computer graphic in his poem. Starring Grendel Barker (The Phantom of the Opera), Seth Green (Deadly Prejudice) and Sarah Polley (The Sweet Hereafter), it's a rugged version of flesh and blood, costume and makeup. Its "sacred lit-

erature" is instead, an archetypal landscape of glaciers and volcanic rocks that neither settled by Vikings. With vistas of breathtaking beauty, Beowulf & Grendel does for Iceland what The Lord of the Rings did for New Zealand—but on a much smaller scale.

Over a pint of lager in a Toronto tavern, Gammerson talks of his own epic struggles to make the movie. He shot it during the fall of 2004, when Iceland was battered by the worst storm in 60 years. "We were filming in the south coast," he says, "with nothing but cones between us and Antarctica. There were four hurricanes that year in the south. These dragons that could blow down Grendel and they but die it out." The director recalls standing on a mountain peak beside the road, the film's biggest set, and seeing the sky turn black with volcanic ash and snowing by the wind. "There was the black wall coming towards it. It missed the road, but the roof blew off the hotel below us. The road had been shaking—it was built of logs and stones. We had Campfires holding down the roof with their hands."

With 150 local gas-picking up rocks and shooting windfalls, the production had to be shut down for four days. And while the director shied from the road falling in, the founding, collapsed, the walls of the house, the house was with the poem. The epic Gammerson—who describes himself as "a Viking" and looks the part with pale blue eyes and flaxen hair—appears to catch the whole ordeal as some modern day Norse saga. "The weather I end with us like you wouldn't believe



But it was so beautiful. The elements become an emotion character in every scene."

Beowulf is native to a modern idiom as old tale. Gammerson says he tried to re-imagine the story to its pagan roots in the natural world. Beowulf is taken from a 1,000-year-old chivalric manuscript, recovered from a fire in the 18th century. Though written in Old English by an unknown poet, the story is derived from Norse sagas. "It's a complete poem that was told for centuries before it was written down," says Gammerson. For those who skipped their Old English homework in school, here's the gist. Beowulf is a prince from the land of the Geats (now southern Sweden) who sails to Denmark to subdue Grendel, a monster who's terrorizing the Danes. After dispatching the monster, he has to subdue Grendel's vengeful mother ("that swamp-demon from hell" in Heaney's verse). Years

Scholars, meanwhile, have been supportive of the film, including Andy Orchard, director of the University of Toronto's Centre for Medieval Studies, who has taught *Beowulf*

move, which is how it will be judged. And the original point, if proven, is that *The Disappearing* works with Morse more as English words with Morse more as, often, difficult to read. As the story unfolds, King, Sharpland is a man against And Polly; who speaks through her low in an incoherent. Consider more, seems to be a move all her own. But today has real power. "He's the best actor," says Gossamer. "It's hard to find a charismatic leading man who's unassuming."

**GEORGE CLOONEY**  
Clooney has never done it. He's never appeared as a detective, despite rumors he was set to appear in *Heat*, too, were desperate. 2) He's told to Resnais to look, despite her insistence that when he passed for an informant, strap by men over his paternity. Met us, says Clooney, have told her his photo story

company, Playmate, and producer on *The Movie Network* and *M* (a) makes the distinction. For Harrison (the owner of a home-movie store, played by charming Bill Paxton) wasn't always peppy after she got cancer and could not love, he had a change of heart a belated in "the romantic." "We're

**HILLARY**  
"Hillary G. [Hillman] is a hard, tough, and very intelligent woman. She is a very good person and a very good leader. She is a very good person and a very good leader."

**K. RODHAM CLINTON... ACCORDING TO** Clinton was speaking out on [the post fest]. She [about Dubai]. On one hand, they hate Israel. On the other hand, they love the money. They're stone neoliberals!"—*The Tonight Show with Jay Leno* (Clinton, in New York City—Dina and Jerry are still at it, at Madison Avenue the wax statue of Clinton's post-fest talk).—*Late Show with David Letterman*

**TV**  
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These wives are married to each other as much as to their polygamous husband.

company, *Alphaville*, and premiering March 22 on The Movie Network and Movie Central) makes the distinction. Barb and Bill Hirschhorn (the owner of a home improvement store, played by charming Everyman Bill Paxton) weren't always polygamist. But after the gas crisis and could no longer afford to live, he had a change of heart and started believing in "the miracle." We're supposed



**HILLARY RODHAM**  
"Hillary Clinton wasn't  
feeling about Dubai  
hard, they stone all  
"Boy it's cold here, so  
it's so cold, at Master  
is wearing two pairs

**IN CLINTON... ACCORDING TO TV**  
 peaking out on [the post doc]. She has mixed  
 On one hand, they hate Israel. On the other  
 doctors."—*The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*  
 New York City—then it's Jerry are telling soap  
 the "Suzanne the vice station of Hillary Clinton  
 talk."—*Late Show with David Letterman*



**WE'RE STALKING**  
Two things George Clooney: an *On Demand* hit. Clooney says his fanzine shows his grin that when he was on *winning* *Groundhog*-glowing adding that he must

**GEORGE CLOONEY**  
Clooney has never done it. He's never appeared as a detective, despite rumors he was set to appear in *Heat*, too, were desperate. 2) He's told to Resnais to look, despite her insistence that when he passed for an informant, strap by men over his paternity. Met us, says Clooney, have told her his photo story

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**HILLARY**  
"Hillary G.  
Feelings are  
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**TV**  
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Two things George Clooney has never done. If he appears on *Deputy Newsweek*, despite his role, Clooney says he'd only appear if he, too, were never shown his gratitude to *Newsweek* fans, despite that subject was on her show he passed for a wearing Groucho glasses over his publicity. Not adding that he must have told her his photo sh

"Hillary Clinton was speaking out on [the post fire]. She has no feelings about Dubai. On one hand, they hate Israel. On the other hand, they stone submitters!"—*The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*

"It's it's cold here in New York City—but it's Jerry is telling us it's no cold, at Madame Tussauds the wax statue of Hillary Clinton is wearing two parkas."—*Late Show with David Letterman*



1997 STATE TRAVEL: Americans aren't overconsumers, like so many Canadians. Still, that's one important

## Science as sound as the Orgasmatron

You'd almost think dispassionate pollster Michael Adams was—horrors—judgmental!

姓名 性别 年龄 职业 学历

bug hit with his last book, *Fire and Ice*, about the differences between America and Canada. My cousin always keeps a copy so he can tell Americans, "If you want to understand the difference between our countries, read this book."

And there's the rub. A couple of years back, I began some generalization in other by saying, "The difference between America and Canada is..." And the American I was pursuing this insight so interrupted me with "The difference between America and Canada is that Americans don't care what the difference between America and Canada is."

Hard to argue with that. Likewise, a Parisian doesn't care what the difference is between France and, say, Britain. So Mr. Adams' bafflement north of the border couldn't even find a publisher south of it. For his follow-up, he's called the Canadian media to focus on the

firmly the Caucasian angle to racism on the frontier between Americans—Americans Backlash: *The Unsettled Story of Social Change in the United States*. Much of the new book recycles the peculiar observations of the late one-“gated communities”—but without all the Caruso comparisons. The result is a bit like a doable act that’s dumped the straight man. But, despite slight slanting the very parallel, new old Adams may not be a U.S. publisher.

It's not hard to see why Americans at least come by their ignorance of Canada without effort. Michael Adams has analyzed reams of data, used thousands of examples, and the casebook he offers is only marginally less dryly than a discussion of Judaism by an Islamic scholar. As it happens, I agree with one of his larger points—that the red vs. white vs. black divide is much exaggerated—though for different reasons. Democrats may think they're Sunnis, but only in the same sense that John Kerry (think he's fluently francophone). Outside the politics context,

doubts and college towns, few blue states would willingly join the Commonwealth in a moribund economy on the brink of a demographic death spiral. In the end, the blues are closer to the red states than they are to anywhere else on the planet.

That's not exactly Adams' point. He's arguing that the critical difference in America is between the engaged (whether Democrat or Republican) and the disengaged—the non-voters who outnumber supporters of either party. Could be. It could also be that lower voter turnout in the U.S. is nothing more than a reflection that politicians have less control over you than in Canada or Europe.

But my problem with Adams, the founder of the Endeavour sailing firm, is more basic

that day, in the Montreal Gazette the other day, he was comparing himself to Nelson de Trocadero! "He was a creature I like to think I can count." Well, Monsieur le Comte any day. Trocadero's were to inventors and churches and observed Americans on the ground. Adams crunched numbers and they meant meaning to them, based on a map of "social values." At the top of the map: "Authority," at the bottom "Individualism." Okay, seems reasonable. At the left is "Survival" and at the right, "Abolitionism."

Hiram: I can do a lot more than make five cents

that these are opposites in Europe, after all, radical secular neoconservative self-fulfillment and long term socialist survival are in very direct conflict. It's where you look at the individuals in each Adorno's quadrant that their own egoism begins to lead cooling ward on the "status and security quadrant," for example, placed down at the bottom, a long way from AUTHORITY at the top but quite close to FULFILLMENT at the right, you spot a "social worker" called "Interpersonality and Empathy." And, when you look up Adorno's definition of his terms, you find the following:

"Tendency to analyse and examine one's actions and those of others, rather than being judgmental about variations from the norm or from one's own way of doing things. An interest in understanding life rather than abstract ideas."

If you've read the English satirist Craig Brown's "comparisons," you'll recognize the words in your underpinnings.

"I'm colourful.  
You're wordy.  
It's true."

"I'm sorry  
You're a laugh  
He makes fun, raises with his armpit."  
Or an *Adagio* cone

\*I'm improved in understanding life.  
You rule today.

His judgmental about variances from one's own way of doing things."

● 本報記者 王 明 採訪報導 陳 明 整理

confusingly in another "status and security quadrant" down in the (friend) corner above "Advertising As Stimulus," is defined that:

"The sense that too much immigration threatens the purity of the country. The belief that immigrants who've made their new home in the United States should set aside their cultural backgrounds and blend into the American melting pot."

That which is in a head—“thematics the purity,” “set aside their cultural background”—one might almost think like Adams is not a dispassionate social scientist and politician but one of those glacial persons who’s “judgmental about variations from one’s own way of doing things.” Yet, even discounting that, *My Adams* category embraces two quite different issues, one of concern principally to a small fringe (social “purity”), the other to a much broader swath (assimilation).

In conferring credibility with "serenoplas," isn't Mr. Adams "taking sides" rather

Americans at least come by their ignorance of Canada without effort. Adams has analyzed reams of data.

[illegible]

And he notes, as one point that in the U.S. (U.N.) small nations by no means, where as in Canada it's vice versa. That's a fact. The focus in the meaning is, appears to it. "This is a stark difference," he writes, "whose roots can be traced directly to the differing values of our two countries." This assertion seems to have no basis other than a casual assumption that Canadians are more environmentally responsible and thus more concerned with "insatiable gasoline consumption, pollution and safety violations."

Isn't that a most obvious contradiction? Minivans are cheaper than SUVs, and Canada doesn't have less disposable income than America. It's easy to be "socially responsible" if you've got no choice in the matter. On the Continent they're driving around in things the size of Arnold Schwarzenegger's pickup-truck, so presumably they're more "socially responsible" still. In Canada those who can afford to buy SUVs don't, it just isn't their kind of cars are smaller. Remember, it's not the SUV. Well, can you, probably don't, that a couple of years back Mr. Clinton made him more use of natural resources, and he certainly got through a lot of them. He drove around like a blimp on wheels in a three-ton Cadillac Escalade. That's bigger than any SUV and I'm sure of global warming. The difference is that the high living of a Liberal cabinet minister is confined, north of the border, mostly to Liberal cabinet ministers while down south it's widely available.

In American households, Adams stills his conservative deficiency syndrome into top gear. He's much taken by the social significance of "extreme makeover" television, especially MTV's *Jerseylicious*. Here, you see this show? I haven't! And nor have most Americans. That's the point about today's culture: "Popular culture" as we like to call it, but in today's fragmented market is a patch of competing audience popular cultures. As the critic Stanley Crouch likes to say if you smile a crocodile and 10 million people go in tears, you'll grow 3,000 million—and 95 per cent of the population won't have to be involved. That shows should caution us: one chest thumping too much into *Jerseylicious* "pop culture" may mean you're going farther, and on the basis of a largely unwatched show in which viewers have cast aside some of its worst ideas about Americans' relationship to their values. That's like Kinky having his conclusions about sexual behaviour on a porn score voted by a million hit men.

Oh, and, as it happens, the "makeover" TV craze—like the "reality" shows and American Idol—comes from Britain. There's the us on the death of American TV in those but not on the death of the American Dream.

Mr. Adams' orthodoxy in his native land on the basis of these two books is remarkable. He may be enough Canadian in his social values but he's all American in the skill with which he's packaged this shock into the best-seller lists. If he were in California, he'd be blue Adam, smacking big riggers while creating Beverly Hills in his brand-new Hometown. But, as he's in Ontario, I'm sure he'll do the questionable thing and mouth himself as a second-hand '66 Honda Civic. **M**

## BACLAN'S BESTSELLERS

## Platform

- |     |  |       |
|-----|--|-------|
| 5.  | <b>THE WING CODE</b> by Don Brown                        | 15.95 |
| 6.  | <b>THE NIGHT WATCH</b> by Sarah Strahan                  | 12    |
| 7.  | <b>THE SEA</b> by John Banville                          | 11.95 |
| 8.  | <b>THE BROOKING POLICE</b> by Fred Astaire               | 9.95  |
| 9.  | <b>A PERFECT NIGHT TO GO TO CHINA</b><br>by David Gilman | 8.95  |
| 10. | <b>THE LIGHTHOUSE</b> by P.D. James                      | 16.75 |
| 11. | <b>THE TENT</b> by Margaret Atwood                       | 9.95  |
| 12. | <b>THE TIME IN BETWEEN</b><br>by David Almond            | 4.95  |
| 13. | <b>HELL</b> by Stephen King                              | 8.99  |
| 14. | <b>THREE DAY ROAD</b> by Joseph Boydel                   | 12.95 |

### Non-Refugees

- |   |  |      |
|---|--|------|
| 2 | <b>SMILEY &amp; ME</b> by Julie Cooper   | 2.00 |
| 3 | <b>SHAKESPEARE'S</b><br>by Susan O. Leach and Graham J. Duncan                       | 2.00 |
| 4 | <b>THE ELEMENT OF FIRES</b> by Ross King   | 2.25 |
| 5 | <b>THE YEAR OF UNUSUAL THINKING</b><br>by Isaac Dorian                               | 2.50 |
| 6 | <b>THE LEBANESE BOOK OF BEARS</b><br>by Katherine Gibson                             | 2.50 |
| 7 | <b>POST WAR</b> by Tony Juch   | 2.50 |
| 8 | <b>A WINTER AT WAR</b><br>ed. by Antony Beevor and<br>Julia Visconti-Grove           | 2.50 |
| 9 | <b>10 THINGS YOU NEVER KNEW WAS<br/>SPOOKY TO DO WITH PUS</b><br>by Katherine Barber | 2.50 |



#### FINALLY A LOOK ABOUT...A HAZARD BALL

And what a party: In 1966, Bush with the royalties from *In Cold Blood*, Truman Capote threw a party in New York for 540 intimate pals. Everyone from newsmen Frank Sinatra and Mia Farrow to assorted European royalty came. Deborah Davis's *Party of the Century: The Fabulous Story of Truman Capote and His Black and White Ball* (Coke Wiley) shows American high society swept off its feet, and poised to join in pop culture's celebrity swirls.





**WANDERER PARTY CHIEF** Thomas Haas is crafted with inventing the cookie that made *Sense* magazine's top 100 list

## The best cookies in the world

Canada, it seems, is famous for the Chocolate Sparkle, even if you've never heard of it

**BY KATE FULLERTON** Every year, *Sense*, an epicureanist's dream, American glossy for foodies, publish on a list of its favourite things. In the food in dairy, inclusion on the *Sense* 100 is a little like making it into *People's* 50 most beautiful people issue or an obscure broad on a superior overnight. The 2006 list includes such items as Headbush's gin, "infused with cucumber and rose petals," a cheese from Spain called Queso Serra's Gouda, and, under the headline "What we really like about Canada," the Chocolate Sparkle cookie.

None, if you don't frequent high-end bakeries in Toronto or Vancouver, or track the careers of party chefs the way a Day After follows the stock market, you've probably never heard of, machines tested, a Chocolate Sparkle, which is billed as "the only chocolate cookie in the world you can bake!" Fresh out of the oven, a Sparkle is a darker, firmer, less moist version of molten chocolate cake; when it cools, it's a moist, airy, slightly nutty cousin to flavoured chocolate cake.

As might be expected of a cookie with a slightly personality, the Sparkle's provenance is a little complicated. Toronto party chef (his foodies came up with the original recipe, but in 2004, Vancouver party chef and chocolate aficionado Thomas Haas "reimagined and updated" it, and now resides in the province "What he changed, exactly?" "Pretty much the whole recipe," says Haas, 37, a fourth-generation party chef from Germany with an open-minded chocolate and party business in North Vancouver. "Instead of using any kind of flour, we use ground almonds. Blackberry honey, far as I recall, never, to keep them nice and moist, as well as flavored honey, which is darker and stronger. Without chocolate, however the quality is exceptional, and it's important to have the right balance of cocoa to cocoa butter. Also, we're anxious, and we don't want to associate ourselves with big

Belgian mass producers—how could we use somebody who doesn't care what cocoa beans he has, what sugar he has?" Not.

Haas explains Sparkles, along with other sweets, at *Sense* bakery in Vancouver and also sells them—and the dough, so you can serve them fresh from the oven and pretend you whipped them up yourself—in his own store and via the Internet, where dough for 36 cookies retails for \$15. "The cookie is one of our bigger items," says Haas, whose hand-made chocolate and Sparkle dough are also available at *Sense* bakery in Toronto.

**Buying the dough lets you serve them fresh from the oven and pretend you whipped them up yourself**

though they bake their own cookies using his recipe (\$5 for six).

The recipe, unlike, freely available on the Internet, which, curiously enough, places Haas "I wasn't worried about being too far from Ontario who's not going to order them any more because the chocolate they use isn't as good as the one I use," he says. "It's not as good as the one I use, but then they order it's hard to find."

Haas—postponed to this for a man who claims to eat his own creation "constantly"—got his start in his parents' restaurant in the Black Forest village of Achleiden. "Working dishes or helping my father make shortbread

dough—there was always a job to do." In 1991, after stints in European restaurants and at the Four Seasons Hotel Vancouver, Haas—who'd placed in the top three in the North American pastry chef competition two years running—helped open Daniel Boulud's now-legendary restaurant, Daniel, in New York. "Thomas has an incredible palate that is very balanced and subtle," says Boulud, who appreciated his own party chef's culinary conservatism (Haas once told the *New York Times* that French cooking often tasted like "confusion cooking").

But after two years of five-hour workweeks, Haas picked up his young daughter one evening and realized "she was frightened, she didn't know me any more. There's a decision to be made over in your life about values, and they don't just have to do with money and professional success." He and his wife, who now handles the business end of Thomas Haas Fine Chocolates, decided they wanted "the people, the country, the nature, the comfortable feeling of Vancouver," he says. "So we said, 'Let's be a little bit in a small town rather than the small fish in the big town.'"

The fact that his small cookie has made the list is, apparently, just more karma. "Nowadays, people try to attract new customers by being really weird. We focus on solid contributions, so nothing which would shock you but still enough to keep you interested." Very interested, apparently. Haas figures he makes 4,000 Sparkles a week. ■



### TODAY'S SPECIAL: USQUEBAUGH-SAUL

Beauchâteau Distillery, a maker of single-malt whiskies, has revised a 300-year-old recipe for usquebaugh-saule, which means "penicillin whisky." The blend is quadruple distilled and is being produced in limited quantities. Canadian whisky will have to wait 12 years for its own and should old times when they drink it. The whisky will be 52 per cent alcohol. See the Scottish company's C&D, Mark Payton: "I'm just hoping the distillers don't explode."

PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY M. HARRIS

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Photo by the Government of Ontario.



**FEED THE FUTURE** The Thermomix cooks, bakes, blends and pulverizes. A retailer unknown in Canada, it's a runaway hit in Europe.

## A machine this good needs a party to sell it

**It makes anything from roast beef to sorbet and is sold in the comfort of your kitchen**

**BY MARTIN PATRASHEN**—Claude Perron believes his kitchen armed only with his belief, rice, a mixer, and the kind of Italian olive oil one did not expect suspicion of the left at anywhere unattended. Perron is a consummate salesman, smiling peppers me with small talk as he takes out what looks like a cross between a toaster and blender and a model of Microsoft's Big O, and places it on the counter. He puts spelt grain in the Thermomix-style stainless steel jug, and adds baking powder and milk. Three-and-a-half minutes later, he has enough dough for a 30-inch pizza. Next he makes a Dijon mustard from scratch, as well as a hot vector cauliflower purée (one plus vegetable oil) and a warm berry rub (that would put half of Little Italy out of business). Then, leaving on the counter like some old-timey evangelist, he says he can make just about anything—meats, steamed fish and rice, lobster bisque, chicken parmesan—without much effort as it takes to let one's sleep.

One could dream this as the low-cost emulsion of a one-stop kitchen. But Perron is no Willy Loman; he's convinced hundreds of people they need this \$1,600 appliance, which will cook, bake, knead and pulverize anything you put into it—and leave the kitchen clean. "There's a philosophy behind the Thermomix," he says, tapping his toe. "We aren't selling an appliance. We sell a way of life."

And he believes in Canada, Thermomix has been around for roughly 45 years. It's a runaway hit in Europe, with upwards of 100,000 machines sold each year. There are Thermomixes in some of the better restaurants in this country, including Torrance's Avignon, Laurent's in Vancouver, and Au Pied de Cochon and Les Chèvres in Montreal. And, as the saying goes, it's not available in stores. Perron's company, importers NobleHunt, has 35 "kitchen consultants" across Canada, who lead the thing into the

homes of strangers and show them with what it can do. They organize Thermomix parties to meet the machine's critics—and get the word out. NobleHunt seldom advertises, and product literature is a link lacking ("Naturally, it's useful" [sic] for healthy living," reads the pamphlet).

The machine's German manufacturer, Vorwerk & Co. KG, isn't the only company to keep retail outlets to reach a typically high end clientele. Pampers Chef Canada Corp. sells its line of kitchen wares—such as the \$19.95 apple wedger and the \$45.95 stainless steel cup muffin pan—in a similar fashion, with

**The \$1,600 Thermomix is too homely to sell in stores. It must be played with to be appreciated.**

a more upscale version of the Tupperware party. The company has no retail stores, relying instead on its 3,000 consultants to draw "cooking shows," typically for a dozen people. "We don't have an advertising budget," says Pampers Chef's vice president, Jackie Groll. "We put you, as our appliance, and say that they're available for sale." British-based Virgin, meanwhile, uses consultants to sell Virgin Vix, its cosmetic line. And as early as 1994, Body Shop introduced Body Shop At Home, with personalized cosmetics parties to help sell its products.

The Thermomix demands the in-person

pitch. "It's not just looking" social in stores, Perron admits. It must be played with to be appreciated. "The way to sell this is by word of mouth, by going house to house." The appliance is disruptive in its simplicity. There are two dials: one controls the blade speed, the other temperature. There is a button to reset the internal scale, and a "ratio" button that adds the thing into one's own—when food is sautéed, or if the chef is feeling saucy.

The heating core surrounds the lower sides of the bowl. A fan-blasted stainless steel tray attaches to the top of the steel container, which cooks food with the steam from whatever you are cooking below. The blades turn anywhere from 100 to 12,000 rpm, and can turn the hardest piece of Parmesan into cheese dust, if that's what you want. As Perron repeatedly says, the Thermomix can make just about anything—the even roasts beef in the steamer trap—but it cooks with both kitchen staples in doubt, mayonnaise and pasta.

If there's a problem with the Thermomix (beyond the price tag, it's size and, well, its headspace). For something that will be the center of attention in the kitchen—"It's a social appliance," as Perron puts it—it's worth around seven kilograms and looks like something out of a medical lab. As well, even for someone who can afford the machine, putting 360 worth of Swiss lobster into what amounts to a shared blender may be a bit of a psychological barrier, as matter how good the bisque. ■



### RECORD SET FOR A HORSE WITH NO NAME

A two-year-old colt horse with no name that's never been raced sold at a Mead auction last week for \$18.3 million, setting a world record. Although unnamed and the son of only modest ancestry, it gave an impressive demonstration of speed while only 220 in its 1995 workouts. An Irish stallion farm, Condonore Stud, brought the horse, an offspring representative of the ruler of Dubai. The same horse sold a year ago for \$485,000.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NORTHERN HUNTS



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PHOTO: Footsteps in Russia Amundsen

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Antarctic Circle  
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## ROCK-A-BYE-BABY WITH STYLE

Mode meets mobility (above) are one. But we're solid on the style's danger: famous chef's outspaid did and comfortable. For instance, the standard wooden straight-backed old-world rocking chair has nothing on the early Sleepy-time Rocker. ([sleepytimerockers.com](http://sleepytimerockers.com))



## BOOTS WITHOUT BORDERS

Artist Josh Worshe designed Brimco, a "crossing trainer," to help migrants negotiate the rocky Tijuana terrain into the U.S. There's a pocket for paraflexes, built-in compass and flashlight, and the model climbs as a prop. And the artist took them to the border and handed them out.

## SEUL: THE MUSICAL

World's Story, a musical set in a North Korean concentration camp, with music by All I Want is Rice, opens in Seoul in March (jwago-theatre.com). Its director calls it the Korean Les Mis and took US\$22,000 from a town that he'd been looking for help as a collector.

## DIS BE BUCHANAN

Pat Buchanan delivers The Passion of The Christ in Latin America's at a series of events of De Alti G. Shaw (Shawnee, March 12)



## SIGHT OF SOFT HANDS

Thin arms and perfect hands end with confidence, using the Mappin's Hand Lotion. Made by Quebec's Custom Academy of Magic ([jennamagic.com](http://jennamagic.com)), the spray gives hands just the right amount of clasp power while not making them sticky.

## THE ODD COUPLE

Owen G. Murr is a charming true-life chat from's book about how an orphan of baby hags ended up becoming the best friend of a solitary 110-year-old tomato.



## BAGHDAD BLOGGING

Go to Iraq Blogger Central for thoughts provoking blogs by people living in the war zone. ([iraqbloggercentral.com](http://iraqbloggercentral.com))



## DANCING IN THE STREETS

Dore Chappelle's Black Party is a shoot from the hip (hop) documentary—an African-American mix-up of song, soul and wit. The comedian serves as an adorable, irreverent host of a Brooklyn concert, featuring Kanye West, Boyz n the Hood and more.



## FUN WITH SEASONING

Whisperer named Manu's name Marcel Dumas—founder member of the renowned Royal Art Lodge—has made his infamous figure widely available. Turn to the Salt Gherkin Salt and Pepper Shakers when the conversation has shifted. ([jordan.com](http://jordan.com))

# BAREFOOTIN'

Greenfoot's voice can be a solo and masculine one song and never and honeyed duet. And her baritone performances are uniformly thrilling. Get familiar with the latest CD, *Agosmar*, before the Cape Verdean, Portuguese-language singer tours Canada this month.

## DIAL NUM FOR SERVICE

performance.com has published a cheat sheet to help connect you immediately with touring, talking agents at over 400 companies.

## TASTES LIKE OFFAL

The popularity of vegetarianism has gotten out of control. Macaroni of Edinburgh, purveyor of the world's finest sheep's head, says that about a quarter of their sales are of the spicy red and bean variety—anything the heart, liver, lungs, and corn-corn-corn.



## KEANO COMES TO LIFE

In the compelling trailer for *A Scanner Darkly* by William S. Burroughs, Keanu Reeves, Robert Downey Jr., and Winona Ryder look like they've walked directly out of a graphic novel.



1995-2004

A 'quiet' store clerk with a passion for computers was charged with eight counts of robbing...stores

Robert Yee was born in Winnipeg on June 11, 1956. His father, Myung Kwon, and his mother, whose family name was Yee, moved around the city with Kibben and his two other siblings' mother died and his father remarried. In 2001, the Yee family bought a small convenience store in the William Ward neighbourhood just off of the downtown core, at 1605 Main St. near the corner of Magway. It was called Magway Pastry Grocery & Convenience Store. Kibben lived over the store with his stepmother and his father and helped them run it, especially in the summer months when he was off school. The store, small place, stayed open until 10:30 in the

From the time he was a young boy, Liben loved computers. His uncle, who does not want to be identified, says Liben was very smart. In high school, he loved video games and music he would download onto his computer. He also loved to fish, "not particularly for the food," his uncle remembers, but "for the catch pure." Liben and his uncle fished together. "His was very likable," his uncle says. A neighbor/hood friend, Jackson Warren, says he was seen "sneak out" but his uncle says "come to find he was quiet, yes." He could be nervous, too.

At the beginning of January, Edwin registered with the Princeton Street Campus of the Red River College of Applied Arts, Science & Technology to take the computer or analytical programmer program. The tuition was \$1,516 for the

first year, and \$3506 for years two and three. Jürgen Schmidt, the program's coordinator, does not remember Edwin, although Edwin was one of only 13 students to register that day and Jürgen issued him a laptop. "I would not be able to identify him as a crowd," Jürgen says. Life does, however, remember the special course Edwin was taking.

"Sobieski was enrolled in a course that was designed for students who need more time to complete a program," Jurgens says. "We took a two-year program and converted it into a three-year program. We supplemented the two-year course with some additional college introductory courses: foundations for science, basic mathematics, and interpersonal skills in the workplace. These courses are designed for students whose background is not sufficient for them to be successful in a two-year program. Also for students who have to work part-time and who aren't able to dedicate as much time to their studies as they would like."


Betty LeNeal taught Edvers at her macro-computer application software class. "Edvers wasn't successful. He rarely attended because I think he was just attending to his parents' worry and otherwise that."



Edwin Yzaguirre was just closing store.

the says Berry did not get to know Edens but she does remember that he was "average" looking, "blonded in," and was "very, very quiet." He didn't have friends in the 11-12th grade class, Berry says. "I don't think there was the opportunity because he was so rarely there."

Still, neighbours like Korike recall Edwin coming home from school regularly. "My son would see him every day," she says. And his uncle says Edwin had "lots of friends." Edwin's keeper, Ryan Bolson, recalls Edwin as "a very nice guy" who seemed to really care about his family. Ryan got to know Edwin after he was arrested in 2004.



**EMORY THOMAS**

...not closing store.

Edwards had no criminal record. Ryan says. Did he get involved with some bad kids? "That's not unusual," Ryan says. "My guess is that Edna was into a gang. He was down-out. He looked like a regular sort of guy. But then again, who do gang kids look like?" According to Scripps, some of the neighborhood kids say Edna was a follower. But that's not all. "Some of them guess what this kid had been involved in before," says Whittaker police lgt. Kelly Derrissen. "If he had been a soldier child, it wouldn't be hard to guess anything."

On the night of Feb. 20, Edwin came home about 9:30 p.m. Says his uncle, "He came from college that night and he came late and his dad didn't even need him and he said, 'Why don't you go up stairs and do.' And Edwin said, 'No, no. You go upstairs and do and I will look after the man for you.'"

At about 10 p.m., Edwin was shot in the head by a robber. According to the *Wilmington Free Press*, the assault was captured by surveillance cameras inside the store and shown on a monitor upstairs. Yao was taken to the Health Sciences Center at 1200 Starbuck St., where he died. He was 19.

**BY BARBARA HIGHTON**

— The Infiniti —  
SPORTING EVENT



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## Getting business tax information online is easier than you think

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Simplify your tax processing today. Visit [cra.gc.ca/eservices](http://cra.gc.ca/eservices).

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